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HISTORY
OF
THE SEVENTEEN TOWNS
OF
RENSSELAER COUNTY

N.Y.
FROM THE

*Colonization of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck
to the Present Time.*

BY
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AS PUBLISHED IN THE TROY DAILY TIMES.

TROY, N. Y.
J. M. FRANCIS & TUCKER.

1880.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNS OF RENSSELAER COUNTY.

CHAPTER I.

PECULIAR COLONIZATION SCHEME OF THE DUTCH—PURCHASES OF KILIAN VAN RENSSELAER—EXTENT OF THE MANOR OF RENSSELAERWYCK—NAMES OF FREEHOLDERS IN 1720—PUBLIC WHIPPING OF SLAVES—THE PROVINCE OF NEW YORK DIVIDED INTO COUNTIES—COURTS OF PYPOWDER HELD IN THE MANOR—ERECTION OF RENSSELAER COUNTY—THE FIRST COURT HELD AT PLATT'S INN—COUNTY OFFICERS—FIRST CENSUSES.

The history of Rensselaer county properly begins with the first purpose of the Dutch to colonize the attractive and fertile country which bordered the river explored by Henry Hudson, the English navigator, in 1609. The project, if we except a possible fear of the Indians inhabiting this inviting region, was one that would readily captivate the attention of speculators, especially those living in a land where the labors of agriculturists were of an extremely arduous character. A people whose vigilance and work preserved their fields and homes from the constant danger of inundation from the high tides of a troublesome ocean, we may suppose, would look with favoring interest upon a scheme of emigration that would release them from such continuous cares and give them larger and more satisfying rewards for their industry and thrift.

PATROON PRIVILEGES.

In Holland there was in 1629 a guild of wealthy merchants known as the West India company. Conscious that by right of discovery the country adjacent to the river explored by Hudson 20 years previously was a possession of Holland, the association petitioned the legislative bodies of the United Provinces to grant it the exclusive privilege for 24 years of taking charge of this territory and of developing by means of emigrants its agricultural and mineral products. This petition was granted, and by the powers conferred by it the West India com-

pany issued its charter of liberties and exemptions under which the colonization of the possessions of the Dutch in North America began.

Inquiring persons will find in this charter of the West India company valuable information regarding the inducements offered to emigrants and what gave the patroons the proprietary right to such extensive tracts of land, as that of the manor of Rensselaerwick, from which Rensselaer county was erected. This important instrument provided that any person who wished to become a patroon would be obliged to give notice of his intention to the company, and that he would not be entitled to the absolute property right of such lands on which he intended to settle colonists, if, during the four years following the giving of this notice, 50 souls, upwards of 15 years of age, were not living thereon; one-fourth of the above number during the first year and the remainder the succeeding three years. The patroons were allowed for these colonies a tract of land on one side of a navigable river, four Dutch or twelve English miles in extent, or two Dutch or six English miles on each side of a river, and which tracts were to extend so far into the country as the situation of the occupiers permitted. The West India company also agreed to transport emigrants and their effects from Holland at a stipulated price; and the animals and instruments necessary for farming, free of freight.

The company also granted to all patroons who should desire the same the right to hold the tracts of lands settled by them as an eternal heritage, which they could transmit to their heirs by testament. The charter further provided that the patroons and colonists should in particular and in the speediest manner endeavor to find out ways and means whereby they might support a minister and schoolmaster, that the service of God and zeal for religion might not grow cold and be neglected among them.

All the colonies were required, at least once in every 12 months, to make an exact report of their condition to the West India company.

The company also stipulated, on certain conditions, that it would use its best efforts to supply the colonists with as many blacks as it conveniently could after the land had been occupied by a colony.

As a means to protect the manufacturers of Holland, the colonists were not permitted to make any woolen, linen or cotton cloth, nor weave any other stuffs, on pain of banishment.

THE MANOR OF RENSSELAERWYCK.

It was under the liberal provisions of this charter that Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, a dealer in pearls and diamonds in Amsterdam, and one of the wealthy directors of the Dutch West India company, became a patroon and acquired by right of settlement a property right to the extensive territory known as the manor of Rensselaerwyck, lying on the east and west banks of the upper Hudson.

The charter of liberties also provided that any one who should settle any colony out of the limits of Manhattan island would be obliged to satisfy the Indians for the land upon which he should place colonists, and that a patroon might extend or enlarge the limits of his colonies if he settled a proportionate number of persons thereon.

Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, in order to perfect a claim to a large extent of land in New Netherland, made purchases of the Indians of several tracts of land, which in time embraced a territory 24 miles long and 48 broad, containing as estimated more than 700,000 acres of land, over which the present counties of Albany, Rensselaer and a portion of Columbia now extend. The persons who acted as agents of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer were Sebastian Jansen Krol, who made the first purchase, April 8, 1630; Gillis Hassett, the second, July 27, 1630, and Brandt van Slechtenhorst, the third, March 13, 1652.

The English confirmation of a patent to Kiliaen Van Rensselaer given by Gov. Thomas Dongan, dated November 4, 1685, describes the boundaries of the several purchases made by the agents of Van Rensselaer as follows:

Beginning at the south end of or part of Berisland on Hudson's river and extending northward up along both sides of the said Hudson's river a place heretofore called the Kahoos. or the falls of the said river and extending itself and west from each side of the said backwards into the woods 24 English miles as also a certain tract of land situated lying and being on the east side of Hudson's river, beginning at the creek by Major Abraham Staet's and so along the said river southward to the south side of Vaxtrix island by a creek called Waghankasigh, stretching from thence with an easterly line into the woods 24 English miles to a place called Wawanaquiasick, and from thence northward to the head of said creek by Major Abraham Staet's as aforesaid.

This patent excepted Fort Albany and the town of Albany, from the southernmost end of the pasture lying over against the north end of Martin Garritson's island to the post on the north side of the said town, where it was formerly marked by Gov. Stuyvesant, and so backward into the woods northwest 16 English miles.

THE CONDITION OF THE PROVINCE IN 1678.

It should be remembered that the English dispossessed the Dutch, in 1664, of New Netherland, as their possessions in America were called. However, the Dutch, in turn, wrested the province from the English in 1672, but who, by the treaty of Westminster, restored it again to the English in 1674.

Major Edmund Andros, having received the appointment of governor of the province, he, in 1678, made a report respecting the condition and growth of the province of New York, which, although it shows that little attention was paid to orthography and punctuation, is so full of important information as makes it quite interesting. The governor says:

Albany is a small long stockaded forte with four bastions in it, 12 gunns, sufficient agt Indians.

The Militia is about 2,000, of wch about 140 horse in three troopes the foote formed into companies, most under 100 men each all indifferently armed with fire-arms of all sizes.

Our principal places of Trade are New Yorke and South'ton except Albany for the Indians, our buildings most wood, some lately stone & brick, good country houses & strong of their severall kindes.

Wee have about 24 townes, villiages or parishes in Six Precincts, Divisions, Rydeings. or Courts of Sessions.

Our Merch'ts are not many but with inhabitants & planters about 2,000, able to beare armes, old inhabitants of the place or of England, Except in & neere New Yorke of Dutch Extraction & some few of all nations, but few serv'ts, much wanted & but very few slaves.

Ministers have been soe scarce and Religions many that noe acct can be given of Children's births or christenings.

Scarcity of Ministers and Law admitting marriages by Justices, noe acct can be given of the number married.

Noe acct can be given of burials, formes of burials not being generally observed & few ministers till very lately.

A mercht worth 1,000 lb. or 500 lb. is accompted a good substantiall merchant and a planter worthe halfe that in moveables accompted with all the Estates may be valued att about £150,000.

There may lately have traded to ye Collony in a yeare from tenn to fifteen shippes or vessells of about together 100 tunns each, English new England and our owne built of wch 5 small shippes and a Ketch now belonging to New Yorke foure of them built there.

There are Religions of all sorts, one Church of England, Several Presbyterians and Independents, Quakers & Anabaptists of Several sects, some Jews but presbyterians & Independts most numerous & Substantiall.

The Duke maintaines a chapline wch is all the certaine allowance or Church of England, but peoples free gifts to ye Ministry, and all places obliged to build Churches & provide for a minister, in wch most very wanting, but presbyterians & Independts desierous to have and maintaine them if to be had. There are abt 20 Churches or Meeting places of wch above halfe vacant their allowance like to be from 40lb to 70lb a yeare and a house and garden. Noe Beggars but all poore cared for. If good Ministers could be had to go theither might doe well & gaine much upon those people.

It has been estimated that in proportion to the number of militia that the population of the province in 1678 must have been about 22,000. A few years afterward the shipping numbered 10 three-masted vessels, 20 sloops, and several ketches.

THE PROVINCE OF NEW YORK DIVIDED INTO COUNTIES.

The first assembly convened in the province of New York, then a dependency of Charles II. of England, held its first session at Hamstead on the 17th of October, 1683.

"The act to divide this province and dependencies into shires and countyes" was passed by this assembly. The preamble to the bill reads :

Having taken into consideracon the necessity of dividing the province into respective countys for the better governing and settling courts in the same :

Bee it enacted by the Governour, Councill, and Representatives, and by the authority of the same, Thatt the said province be divided into twelve countys, as followeth :

The counties as mentioned in the act were : "The citty and county of New Yorke;" "the county of

Westchester;" "the county of Ulster;" "the county of Albany;" "the Dutchesses county;" "the county of Orange;" "the county of Richmond;" "King's county;" "Queen's county;" "the county of Suffolk;" "Duke's county;" and "the county of Cornwall."

The county of Albany, erected by this act, embraced the following portion of the territory of the province :

The county of Albany to conteyne the towne of Albany, the colony of Rensselaerwyck, Schonelecta, and all the villages, neighbourhoods and Christian plantacons, on the east side of Hudson's river, from Roelef Jansen's Creeke, [six miles below Hudson city] and on the west side from Sawyer's Creeke to the Saraaghtoga, [Saratoga.]

THE FREEHOLDERS OF RENSSELAERWYCK.

As the county of Rensselaer is part of the territory embraced in the manor of Rensselaerwyck, it is interesting to know what methods were first adopted to give the manor a representation in the general assembly, and to provide for its inhabitants the necessary officers for the management of its local affairs. "An act for defraying the common and necessary charge, in the manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the county of Albany, passed August 4, 1705, permitted the freeholders of the manor to elect and echoose yearly, and every year, one supervisor, one treasurer, one assessor and one collector for the said manor."

The second section of the same bill recites "that the wages and charge of their representative, or deputy in general assembly," should be "ten shillings per diem," and that the inhabitants should "be liable to defray the wages and charge of their own representative or deputy."

In 1714 there were in the manor of Rensselaerwyck 427 white persons and 181 slaves; making a population of 608 persons.

In a return made on the 11th of June, 1720, by Gerrit Van Schaick, sheriff of the city and county of Albany, is preserved the names of all the freeholders in the colony of Rensselaerwyck. As many of the present residents of Rensselaer county are descendants of the persons named in this early census report, it may be well to mention them in this connection:

Wouter Barheyt,	Andries Huyek,
Johannis Valkenburgh,	Maes Van Buren,
Jno. Barheyt,	Corn'lis Van Vechten,
Isaac Van Alstine,	Jonat. Witbeek,
Jacob Schermerhorn,	Martin Vanburen,
Jacob Schermerhorn, jr.,	Barent Geritse,
Johns Ouderkirk,	Jan Witbeek,
Claes Gardineer,	Jonas Dow,
Andries Gardinier,	Folcort Dow,
Hend. Valkenburgh,	Jno. Van Vechten,
Jacob Valkenburgh,	Gerrit Lansen,
Tho. Witbeek,	Volcort Van Vechten,
Luykas Witbeek,	Melgert Vandause,
Solomon Van Vechten,	Rut Vandause,
Cap. Hendrick Van Rensselaer,	Daniell Winne,
Philip Foreest,	Gerrit Van Wie,
	Jan Van Wie,

Martin Van Alstine,	Gerrit Vandenbergh,
Albert Roolfsa,	Hendr. Dow.
Marte Van Alstine, junr.,	Albert Slingerlant,
Jno. Funda,	Evert Banker,
Derrick Vanderhyden,	Wouter Vandersse,
Gerrit Vandenbergh,	Killian Vandersse,
Albert Brat,	Johannis Appel,
Cornelis Van Alstine,	Peter Huseyde,
Johns. Wendell,	Derrick Hagodorn,
Jan Van Alstyne,	Andries Brat,
Adrian Oothout,	Storm Brat,
Peter Coyeman,	Ome. Legrange,
Barent Staats,	Johns. Legrange,
Andries Coyeman,	Johannis Simouse,
Samuelli Coyeman,	Nicos. Grewsbeek,
Jno. Witbeek,	Jno. Oothout,
Coonrod Hooghteeling,	Mindert Marselis,
Storm Backer,	Jacob Lansen,
Jno. Backer,	Abram Ouderkerk,
Hendrick Van Wyen,	Peter Schuyler, Esqr.,
Wm. Van Alen,	Abram Wendell,
Jaac. Falkenburgh,	William Ketlyne,
Phillip Wendell,	Frances Pryn,
	Claes. Bovie.

SLAVES AND SLAVE LAWS.

Slaves were first brought into the New Netherlands by the Dutch, under the granting power of the charter of liberties of 1629. When the English became possessed of the territory, they, by importations from Africa, further perpetuated slavery and protected it by different laws. "Forasmuch," reads an act passed by the general assembly, October 29, 1730, "as the number of slaves in the cities of New York and Albany, as also within the several counties, towns and manors within this colony doth daily increase, and that they have oftentimes been guilty of confederating together in running away, and of other ill and dangerous practices," it is unlawful "for above three slaves to meet together at any time," or "at any other place than when it shall happen they meet in some servile employment for their masters' or mistresses' profit, and by their masters' or mistresses' consent, upon penalty of being whipt upon the naked back, at the discretion of any one justice of the peace, not exceeding forty lashes."

The act further provided that each town and manor might appoint a common whipper for their slaves, who was to be paid a sum of money "not to exceed three shillings per head." Five pounds was the penalty for harboring a slave for every 24 hours. Free negroes for entertaining slaves had to pay a penalty of £10. This was in the fourth year of the reign of George III.

In the act for granting to his majesty the several duties and importations on goods, wares and merchandises imported into the colony, passed December 12, 1753, it was provided there should be paid "for every negro, mulatto or other slave, of four years old and upwards, imported directly from Africa, five ounces of Sevil, Pillar or Mexico plate, or forty shillings in bills of credit made current in this colony."

To avoid and clear up disputes that might happen concerning this duty on slaves, it was further provided "that all slaves imported from Africa, in the same vessel which took them on board on any part of that coast," should pay no duty greater than 40 shillings, "tho' such vessel had stopp'd at, or entered in any other port or ports, before her arrival at New York," provided the master or mate, and some other officer which came in such vessel from Africa, and "made oath before the treasurer of the colony that the slave or slaves so imported had been actually taken on board of that vessel on the coast of Africa."

FAIRS AND COURTS OF PYPOWDER.

The holding of fairs and markets in each city and county throughout the province of New York was as early as the year 1692, commanded by law. An act passed by the general assembly March 8, 1773, directed that there should be held in the city and county of Albany, two fairs yearly; the first fair to be kept at Albany, commencing on the third Tuesday of July and ending on the Friday following; the second to be held at Crawler in Rensselaerwyck, commencing on the third Tuesday in October and ending on the Friday following. These fairs or public markets brought together the country people, and were made not only occasions of pleasurable reunions and of relaxation from toil, but also opportunities for the sale of produce, cattle, clothing and other articles. The fair was kept open from 10 o'clock in the morning until sunset.

The governor of the province issued a commission to a proper person who acted as ruler of the fair and who was also delegated to hold the courts of pypowder, as was the custom at fairs in England.

As explained by Blackstone the lowest and at the same time the most expeditious court of justice known to the law of England was "the court of *piepoudre, curia pedis pulverizati*; so called from the dusty feet of the suitors; or according to Sir Edward Coke, because justice is there done as speedily as dust can fall from the foot; upon the same principle that justice among the Jews was administered in the gate of the city, that the proceedings might be more speedy as well as public. But the etymology given us by a learned modern writer is much more ingenious and satisfactory; it being derived, according to him, from *piepudreaux* (a peddler, in old French), and therefore signifying the court of such petty chapmen as resort to fairs or markets. It is a court of record, incident to every fair and market; of which the steward of him who owns or has the toll of the market is the judge, and its

jurisdiction extends to administer justice for all commercial injuries done in that very fair or market, and not in any preceding one.

THE DIVISION OF ALBANY COUNTY.

When the province of New York in 1683 was divided into counties, Albany county embraced more territory than all the remaining portion of the province. By an act of general assembly, passed March 12, 1772, Albany county was divided into three counties: Albany, Tryon and Charlotte. On the 24th of the same month it was divided into districts, among which were the district of Rensselaerwyck, Schactekoke district and the Hoosic district.

By an act, dated March 7, 1788, entitled "An act for dividing the state into counties," 16 counties were included within the boundaries of New York, namely: New York, Albany, Suffolk, Queens, Kings, Richmond, Westchester, Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, Columbia, Washington, Clinton, Montgomery, Cumberland and Gloucester.

The state convention which assembled at Poughkeepsie on the 17th of June, 1788, took into consideration the ratification of the present constitution of the United States. On the 26th of July the question was voted upon and was carried by a majority of three. The politics of this body of delegates was distinguished by certain principles known as federal and anti-federal.

THE ERECTION OF RENSSELAER COUNTY.

Rensselaer county was erected under "An act for apportioning the representation in the legislature according to the rules prescribed by the constitution, and for dividing the county of Albany," passed February 7, 1791.

The act provides "that the towns of Cambridge and Easton, in the county of Albany, shall be and hereby are annexed to and shall hereafter be considered as part of the county of Washington, and that all that part of the residue of the said county of Albany which is on the east side of a line drawn through the middle of the main stream of Hudson's river, with such variations as to include the islands lying nearest to the east bank thereof, shall be one separate and distinct county, and be called and known by the name of Rensselaer."

A court of common pleas and a court of general sessions of the peace were to be held at such places as should be designated by the judges of the court of common pleas and such justices of the peace as should be appointed. The first term of the courts of common pleas and general sessions of the peace were to begin on the first Tuesday in May and might "continue to be

held until the Saturday following inclusive," and the second term, on the second Tuesday of November and "might continue to the following Saturday inclusive."

The act also made it lawful for all courts and officers in the said counties, in all cases, civil and criminal, to confine their prisoners in the gaol of the county of Albany until gaols should be provided in the said counties.

The act divided the state into four great districts, namely, southern, middle, western and eastern districts. The eastern district comprehended the counties of Columbia, Rensselaer, Washington and Clinton.

The senatorial representation of the districts was southern 8, middle 6, western 5 and eastern 5.

The number of members of assembly to be elected in each county was: The city and county of New York 7, Suffolk 4, Queens 3, Kings 1, Richmond 1, Westchester 5, Dutchess 7, Ulster 5, Orange 3, Columbia 6, Rensselaer 5, Washington 4, city and county of Albany 7, Saratoga 4, Montgomery 7 and Ontario 1.

THE FIRST COUNTY OFFICERS.

The first officers of Rensselaer county assembled at Lansingburgh, at the inn of Ananias Platt, on Tuesday, April 15, 1791, and there took the necessary oaths of office, and appointed Tuesday, the third day of May, for the sitting of the first court.

The following persons were the first county officers in 1791:

First Judge—Anthony Ten Eyck.

Judges—John Van Rensselaer, Israel Thompson, Robert Woodworth and Jonathan Brown.

Assistant Justices—John Knickerbacker, jr., John W. Schermerhorn, Jonathan Niles, Benjamin Hicks, Nicholas Staats, Robert Montgomery, Moss Kent and John E. Van Alen.

Justices of the Peace—Anthony Ten Eyck, John Van Rensselaer, Israel Thompson, Robert Woodworth, Jonathan Brown, John Knickerbacker, jr., John W. Schermerhorn, Jonathan Niles, Benjamin Hicks, Nicholas Staats, Robert Montgomery, Moss Kent, John E. Van Alen, Levinus Lansing, Jonah Martin, Hosea Moffit, Daniel B. Bradt, Joseph Spencer, David Brown, Moses Vail, James McKown, Abner Newton, Stephen Gorham, Jacob Van Alstyne, Ephraim Morgan, Josiah Masters, Gerritt Winne, Jacob A. Lansing, Rowland Hall, Hezekiah Hull, William Douglas, Daniel Gray, Jonas Odell, Benjamin Randall, Benjamin Hanks, Harman Van Vechten, Benjamin Milks, Ebenezer Darling, Jacob Van der Heyden, jr., John C. Schermerhorn and Nathaniel Jacobs.

Surrogate—Moss Kent.

Sheriff—Albert Pawling.

Treasurer—Aaron Lane.

County clerk—Nicholas Schuyler.

Coroners—Silas Weeks, Abraham Ten Eyck, John De Wandelaer, James Smith and Aaron Ostrander.

THE SITTING OF THE FIRST COURT.

There being no county buildings and no particular site determined upon for their erection, the county clerk's office was first located in Lansingburgh in a house previously occupied by N. Jacobs, near that of Col. John Van Rensselaer.

The brief record of the minutes of the first session of the court of common pleas is the following:

MAY TERM, 1791.—At a court of common pleas held for the county of Rensselaer at Lansingburgh, on the first Tuesday in May, 1791, at the house of Ananias Platt. Present: Honorable Anthony Ten Eyck, Esq., first judge; John Van Rensselaer, Israel Thompson, Robert Woodworth, Jon'n Brown, Esq'srs., judges; Benjamin Hicks, Rob't Montgomery, Moss Kent, Esq'srs., assistant justices.

On an application of Mr. John Woodworth to be examined as to his learning and ability to practice as an attorney and counselor of this court—

Ordered, That the said John Woodworth be examined accordingly by Guert Van Schoonhoven, John D. Dickinson and Corn's Van Derbergh in the presence of the judges of this court.

On motion of Mr. Ten Brook and others for leave to be admitted to practice as a counsellor and attorney in this court on producing their commissions from the supreme court, which commissions being produced, ordered that the following persons be admitted and they were sworn accordingly: Dirck Ten Brook, Moss Kent, John V. Henry, Peter D. V'n Dyck, Ab'm Hun, John Waters Yates, Nich's Funda, Guert Wendall, John D. Dickinson, Guert V'n Schoonhoven, Corn's V'n Derbergh, John Lovett, Peter E. Elmendorf.

On motion of Mr. Dickinson, in favor of John Woodworth that this court approve his examination and he be admitted to practice as a counsellor and attorney therein. Ordered that he be admitted and sworn.

William Fenshaw vs. Joseph Kline: A plaint to the sheriff in this cause with a return of replevin was made and filed.

On motion of Mr. Dickinson, attorney for plaintiff ordered that this cause be entered and the defendant appear and answer, etc., or that an attachment issue against him. Defendant appeared by Moss Kent, his attorney.

Thirty-three rules and orders, at this point, were adopted by the court, to be "observed by all the officers thereof." The second cause before the court was that of

Nathaniel Mann vs. Aaron B. Hinman and Livinus Lansing, administrators of Gideon Hinman. Mr. Woodworth, attorney for the plaintiff. The defendants appeared by John D. Dickinson, their attorney.

The next actions were:

John Harbeck vs. William Moulton. Moss Kent for the plaintiff and John D. Dickinson for the defendant.

Frederick Butler vs. Jehiel Galpin. John D. Dickinson for the plaintiff and Guert Van Schoonhoven for the defendant.

It was directed by the court "that a seal be made for the county of Rensselaer and be affixed by the clerk of the court to all process and records thereof to authenticate the same, and that the device be a plough, with the words 'Rensselaer county seal' engraved round the edge thereof."

Court adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The court the next morning, the 4th of May, met according to adjournment, all the judges and justices being present.

On motion of Mr. Dickinson, for leave that Sanders Lansing and Francis Silvester be admitted to practice as counsellors and attorneys in this court, on producing their licenses in the supreme court, leave was granted accordingly and they were admitted and sworn.

The court then adjourned till 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The court having assembled it adjourned till 10 o'clock in the next morning.

The only business recorded on Friday was:

Ordered, That this court stands adjourned to the second Tuesday in November next, then to meet at the house of Stephen Ashley in the town of Troy.

THE FIRST CENSUSES OF RENSSELAER COUNTY.

On March 3, 1795, the legislature ordered a census to be taken of the freeholders in the state having property valued at £20 and upwards, also of persons renting tenements at a yearly rent of 40 shillings. The census taken that year under the act was the first enumeration of the people in the county of Rensselaer. It was as follows:

A general account of the number of electors in the county of Rensselaer made from the returns delivered into the secretary's office of the state of New York pursuant to an act entitled an act for taking a census in this state, passed the 3d of March, 1795:

TOWNS.	Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £100.....		Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £20 and under £100.....		Electors not possessed of freeholds, but who rent tenements of the yearly value of 40s....	
	358	60	132			
Troy.....	198	75	41			
Greenbush.....	206	18	158			
Schodack.....	339	194	119			
Stephentown.....	278	38	286			
Petersburgh.....	184	26	210			
Hoosick.....	242	22	155			
Platstown.....	155	8	112			
Schaghticoke.....						
	1,990	413	1,216			

HISTORY OF THE TOWNS OF RENSSELAER COUNTY.

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In 1801 a second census was taken, which exhibits the number of freeholders as follows :

A general account of the number of electors in the county of Rensselaer, made from the returns delivered into the secretary's office of the state of New York, pursuant to an act entitled "An act for taking a census in this state." Passed 7th April, 1801:

TOWNS.	Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £100.....	Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £20 and under £100.....	Electors not possessed of freeholds, but who rent tenements of the yearly value of 40s....
Schaghticoke	183	15	71
Schodack	345	44	117
Hoosick	358	7	195
Stephentown	430	61	153
Troy	472	27	233
Pittstown	294	16	136
Greenbush	357	36	98
Petersburgh	387	16	219
	2,796	242	1,246

The third census that of 1807 gives the following enumeration :

RETURN OF ELECTORS IN THE COUNTY OF RENSSELAER.

TOWNS.	Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £100.....	Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £20 and under £100.....	Electors not possessed of freeholds, but who rent tenements of the yearly value of 40s....
Schodack	297	1	155
Stephentown	241	23	145
Petersburgh	132	3	80
Greenbush	414	11	130
Troy	303		268
Schaghticoke	213	11	54
Pittstown	313	2	105
Hoosick	254	4	169
Lansingburgh	124	14	73
Brunswick	204	11	113
Grafton	134		23
Berlin	243	17	118
Phillipstown	231	20	50
	3,103	123	1,502

The town of Nassau, formed March 31, 1806, was first known by the name of Philipstown, until April 6, 1808, when the former name was adopted.

The fourth census of 1814 exhibits the following enumeration :

RETURN OF ELECTORS (AND OTHER INHABITANTS) IN THE COUNTY OF RENSSELAER.

TOWNS.	Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £100.....	Electors possessed of freeholds of the value of £20 and under £100.	Electors not possessed of freeholds, but who rent tenements of the yearly value of 40s.	Free white males under 18 years of age.....	Free white males of the age of 18 years and under 45 years.....	Free white males of the age of 45 years and upwards.....	Free white females under 18 years of age.....	Free white females of the age of 18 years and under 45 years.....	Free white females of the age of 45 years and upwards	All other free persons...	Slaves.....	Total.....
Berlin.....	228	15	113	559	304	144	503	397	137	1	1	1,467
Brunswick.....	282	17	107	599	310	147	636	348	138	70	24	2,233
Greenbush.....	140	13	180	637	369	168	635	403	125	70	61	2,306
Grafton.....	110	11	14	427	188	65	592	308	82	51	17	2,007
Hoosick.....	11	1	3	171	488	260	777	271	169	31	13	1,509
Hoosickburgh.....	1,271	13	1,701	5,458	3,438	1,240	2,911	1,471	1,074	15	1	13,097
Nassau.....	803	14	141	751	430	172	764	411	174	1	1	1,761
Petersburgh.....	1,489	8	133	597	129	11	561	317	115	3	46	3,108
Pittstown.....	2,890	13	198	841	468	203	800	406	160	55	8	3,243
Schodack.....	2,999	13	183	998	516	197	874	478	169	23	68	3,217
Schodack.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Schodack.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
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Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	492	177	745	433	146	18	101	3,128
Stephentown.....	3,214	14	183	838	4							

CHAPTER II.

THE TOWN OF TROY.

THE GREAT MEADOW GROUND OF THE INDIANS—ITS FIRST DUTCH SETTLERS MASSACRED—PETER VAN WOGGELUM'S TRANSPORT—ARMY OF THE NORTH AT VAN SCHAICK'S ISLAND—THE NEDERDUITSCH OF THE UPPER HUDSON—THE LITTLE HAMLET OF FERRY HOOK—REMARKABLE PROPHECY CONCERNING TROY—A THOUSAND POUNDS FOR THE COUNTY SEAT—THE ERECTION OF THE FIRST COURT HOUSE—A PUBLIC WHIPPING POST AND STOCKS.

The art of writing has become a great blessing to man. What innumerable controversies would arise to disturb his peace and to dispossess him of his property had he not some written instrument providing him with the proper proof of his ownership and giving him the sole privilege of the use of the thing held by him. He is conscious that the details of a business transaction when written out and properly attested are of a more satisfying character than when they are intrusted to the remembrance of witnesses. It is this peculiarity of man that has left to our examination in the offices of county clerks and the departments of state a multitude of well preserved papers relating to the acquirement and the disposal of landed property from a very early period of our history to the present time. For our further enlightenment respecting the situation, limits and designations of such estate these valuable papers are frequently accompanied with maps, some of which topographically exhibit the special features of the territory referred to.

PAFRAETS DAEL.

Washington Irving in his humorous description of the early settlers of New Netherland misleads his readers into a belief that the Dutch were a very dull and ridiculous class of people. The radiant glory of the grand achievements of the Dutch nation which threw its effulgence over Europe in the seventeenth century is the contradiction to any error of opinion founded on the burlesque of this highly honored American writer. The practical shrewdness of the

Hollanders is most notable in the enormous profits of their great commercial companies—the East India and the West India companies.

Kiliaen Van Rensselaer and his associated partners, Samuel Goodyn, Samuel Bloembaert and John De Laet, the proprietors of the territory of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, were as enterprising in their efforts to settle colonists in America as any of the men in our day who have amassed wealth by speculations in landed property. And it is quite interesting to know how they accomplished their purpose and by what means they induced the people of Holland to emigrate to this newly discovered country and begin the cultivation of the wild land lying within the limits of the manor, which they named Rensselaerwyck. If we study the oldest and the rarest map of this particular tract, or rather tracts of land, made by Gillis Van Schendel in 1630, we will perceive that they gave certain divisions of the territory possessed by them very flattering designations, and which no doubt captivated the minds of those persons who sailed from Holland to seek and settle upon the land whose fertility was so highly praised.

Pafraets dael, the paradise of a lazy man, is the attractive title they bestowed upon the territory now occupied by the city of Troy. The land on the west side of the *Noord rivier* they denominated *Weelys dael*, a valley of luxuriance.

There was, however, more of fact than of fancy in these names. The virgin soil was surprisingly fertile, game of all kinds abounded in

The greatest plenty, fish of finest flavor were to be caught in the streams, and the woods were dark with the thick foliage of stately and useful trees.

On the north side of an unnamed water course, that no doubt was intended to indicate the creek which we now call the Poesten kill, is the marked site of an Indian stronghold, designated *Uainats Castel*, probably one belonging to the last of the Mohegans, a tribe of Indians once inhabiting the east bank of the Hudson river. On what appears to be Haver island, is another Indian fortification, named *Mononins Castel*. This stronghold may have been in the possession of the Mohawks, dwelling along the Mohawk river, or rather the Maquas river, as it was then called.

The three islands opposite the site of the Bessemer steel works, are named *Bloenaert's Eylanden*, Bloenaert's islands. Where now is the city of Albany, a mark is given, which is called *Fort Orange*. On the opposite and west side of the river, the site of Greenbush, is *De Laet's Eyland* and just below is a stream, which was *De Laet's Maulen kill ende watervall*, De Laet's mill creek and waterfall.

The second branch of the Mohawk river is called *Rensselaer's kill ende watervall*, Rensselaer's creek and waterfall. The third and fourth sprouts of the Mohawk are each denominated *water vall*, waterfall.

THE SITE OF TROY PURCHASED FROM THE INDIANS.

The Indians who claimed the territory,—the site of the city of Troy,—by right of possession, it seems, could not resist the temptations which the acquisitive Hollanders placed before them in order to obtain the property right of their land, which they desired for agricultural purposes. In the office of the secretary of the state is preserved the record of the purchase from the Indians of the land now occupied by the city of Troy, and as it is a very brief instrument, and has never been published, as we believe, it may be a pleasure to the readers of the *Troy Daily Times* to peruse it:

A Confirmacon Granted unto Sweer Theunissen of a P'cell of Land lying near Albany:

Richard Nicholls Esq &c Whereas there is a Certain P'cell of Land lying near Albany on the other side of the Creek or Kill beginning from the Mill on the Creek and to goe on over the sd Creek unto the Great Meadow Ground whereabout sixty-six paces the Trees are markt which sd P'cell of Land was in the Yeare 1659 Purchased of the Indian Proprietrs by Jan Barentsen Wemp with the Leave and Consent of Jan Baptist Van Rensselaer and Arent Van Corlaer Now the Title and Interest with sd Land being devolved upon Sweer Theunissen who hath Married the Widdow and Relict of

the forenamed Jan Barentsen Wemp Now for a Confirmacon &c The Patent is Dated the 13th of Apr 1667:

I do hereby Certify the foregoing to be a true Copy of the Original Record Compared therewith By Me LEWIS A. SCOTT, Secretary.

Brodhead, in his history of the state of New York, referring to the last purchase of land made by the agent of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, March 13, 1652, says:

He [Brandt Van Slechtenhorst] had just purchased for his patron two large additional tracts on the east side of the river; one called "*Paanpack*," including the site of the present city of Troy, and another further north, called "*Punhoosic*."

Comparing this statement with the record in the office of the secretary of state, it is seen that the two contradict one another. The first asserts that Jan Barentsen Wemp purchased the ground from the Indian proprietors with the lease and consent of Jan Baptist Van Rensselaer and Arent Van Corlaer, and that the purchase was made in the year 1659.

Several writers, upon what authority it is not known, have accepted the word "*Paanpack*" as being an Indian designation. Further, in using it, they assert that its meaning is, "the field of standing corn." From personal inquiry, the writer of the present article, has found the persons employing the term unable to give any other reference than that which has already been carefully quoted from the history of the state of New York, by Brodhead. This writer makes no declaration that it is an Indian term, nor does he give it any interpretation.

Instead of being an Indian designation it has every evidence that it is a Dutch compound of the two words *Pont*, a ferry, and *Pacht* or *Pagt*, a farm, a ferry-farm. The pronunciation of *Paanpack* and of *Pont-pacht* is phonetically similar. The fact that from a very early date the farm of the Van der Heyden family, and, perhaps, when the same was previously owned by Peter Van Woggleun, had a ferry belonging to it, seemingly corroborates the correctness of a conclusion that the names used by Brodhead are of Dutch derivation. Apparently in the same way the word *Punhoosic* had its derivation: *Pont*, a ferry, and *Woestijne* or *Woestenij*, a wilderness, a ferry in a wilderness, or where the country is uncultivated.

THE EARLY SETTLERS ALONG THE POESTEN KILL.

In the clerk's office of Albany county are seven volumes of early records written in what is called "black Dutch." These unique volumes embrace in their contents a variety of papers relating to the transfer of real and personal property, contracts, proposals and other transactions made by the early inhabitants of Beaver-

wyck and of the manor of Rensselaerwyck. Certain papers belonging to other records disclose the manner in which the land acquired by Sweer Theunissen by marriage was subdivided and sold. It appears that a Hollander named Pieter Adriaens, either by inheritance or purchase, became owner of a piece of ground in Lubbede's land, as the territory whereon Troy now stands was called, which he on the 11th of February, 1669, conveyed to his son Pieter Pieterse. It is designated as "a certain lot, with a part of a garden, and the fruit trees, standing and lying on Lubbede's land in the colony of Rensselaerwyck, according to the proofs of his title existing, stretching along and adjoining the lot of Barent Pieterse, the same in length and breadth, as it lies in fence."

According to another record "Sweer Theunissen, husbandman, dwelling in the Colonie Rensselaerswyck," acknowledges that he is "indebted to Geertruyt Barents, wife of Jacob Heven, in the number of fourteen whole and merchantable beaver skins, for money disbursed and merchandise received." For the payment of this debt and interest thereon on the 27th of May, 1669, he pledges "his two lots lying at Lubberde land, in the occupation of Jacob Heven."

Besides his former grant of land, Sweer Theunissen, on the 13th of June, 1669, received another portion from Madame Johanna Ebbink, the heiress of John De Laet, one of the four co-partners of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, which land is designated as the grantor's certain lot, to the west river, lying between Hendrick Reur and said Sweer Theunissen at Lubbede land in the colony Rensselaerswyck, according to the description thereof made in the contract with his predecessor Jan Barentse Wemp, deceased."

A certain Dirk Hesseling makes an acknowledgment that he has transferred to Jacob Heven "two certain lots of land lying in the colony of Rensselaerswyck, the one before this belonging to Dirk Van Schelluyne, which devolved upon him by commission of the honorable court, by virtue of an execution of date the 17th of June, 1670, and the other before this belonging to Hendrick Reur, deceased, and by the late director Mons. Jeremias Van Rensselaer, sold at public sale, of which the grantor remained the highest bidder and buyer, according to the vendue book in the custody of the vendue master, Mons. Provoost, of date the 9th of July, 1670."

HOW THE WYNANT'S KILL GOT ITS NAME.

Another conveyance shows that the creek south of the Poesten kill received its name from the purchaser of a saw mill erected on its banks. This paper bears date of October 18, 1671, and

recites that "Geertruyt Pieterse, late widow of Abraham Pieterse Vosburgh, deceased," grants to "Wynant Gerritse Van der Poel, her half of the saw mill, lying in the colony Rensselaerswyck, on the east bank, opposite the bouwery of Mr. Philip Schuyler, standing on the kill which lies on the south side of the bouwery of Mr. Jeronimus Elbingh, with all the tools thereto belonging."

A record of a later date establishes the fact that on the Poesten kill, Sweer Theunissen had built a saw mill, which he on the 25th of June, 1675, sells to Jan Cornelise Vyselaer, and Lucas Pieterse. In addition to the "saw mill, together with the kill whereon" it stood, he further conveys to the same persons "two morgons of arable land lying in the colony Rensselaerwyck, up the river, on the east bank over against Stoney point [steene hoeck, now the site of the "Rock house" in West Troy], before this called Poesten mill, together with free egress and a road along the hill, by Pieter Pieterse Van Woggelum's, to the shore, as has been used before this; which land is a part of the patent granted to him the grantor, by Governor Richard Nicols, of date the 13th of April, A. D., 1667."

On the 7th of July, 1676, "Jeronimus Ebbink, husband and guardian of Madam Johanna de Laet," conveys to Jurian Teunisse Tappen "a certain bouwery, lying in the colony Rensselaerswyck, where Jurian aforesaid at present dwells, with dwelling house, barn and two ricks," * * "moreover all the land, as well arable as pasture land, as the same lies in fence between two kills, all by virtue of the contract and conveyance thereof, passed between Mr. Jeremias Van Rensselaer, deceased, late director of the colony before named, and Madam Johanna De Laet for her tenth part, being the just tenth part of the colony, the same being of date of the 21st of June, 1674." The aforesaid bouwery, "together with horses, cattle, house and barn, grain sowed, and all that is thereon fast by earth and nailed" Capt. Philip Pieterse Schuyler purchased of Jurian Teunisse Tappen on the 6th of November, 1677, for "six hundred merchantable beaver skins."

A piece of woodland, called Passquassick, which lay south of the Piscawen kill, Peter Van Woggelum, on the 19th of September, 1681, purchased of Robert Saunders, who held the patent of Stone Arabia, the site of Lansingburgh. Previous to this last acquisition of land Peter Van Woggelum, on the 6th of May, 1679, had become the sole owner of all the original Wemp property. It may be here remarked that Sweer Theunissen is frequently called Sweer Theunissen Van Velsen in some of the old documents.

When Sieur Le Moyne de Sainte Helene with a party of French and Indians surprised the community of Schenectady in February, 1690, and massacred the inhabitants, Sweer Theu-ssen, who had removed thither about the year 1689, was shot and burnt, as also was his wife. Among the names of those killed is that of Myndert Wemp, and of those taken prisoners, that of John Wemp, children likely of Jan Barentsen Wemp. This barbarous and unexpected attack upon a village so distant from Canada, in midwinter, created the greatest consternation among the settlers living along the upper Hudson.

THE VAN DER HEYDEN PURCHASE.

By virtue of a transport from Peter Van Wogelum bearing date the 2d day of June, 1707, which was confirmed by a release of Madam Maria Van Rensselaer and Hendrick Van Rensselaer, two of the executors of the last will and testament of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, lord of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, bearing date of the 15th of December, 1720, Dirck Van der Heyden became possessed of "all that certain tract of land" * * * "in the county of Albany on the east side of Hudson's river, about five miles above the city of Albany, beginning on the north side of a certain creek called Poesten creek, where there formerly was a saw-mill (which said mill stood on a straight line 58 chains from the said river)" thence along the creek to the river, thence along the river "to a small creek called the Meadow creek," thence eastwardly into the woods, thence southwardly "along the west side of the land of Albert Bratt to the place of beginning," "containing 497 acres and one rood." Dirck Van der Heyden at the same time also purchased of Peter Van Wogelum "another parcel of land and meadow thereunto adjoining, bounded on the north side by a certain kill or creek known and called by the name of Piskawen kill, and on the north by the aforesaid parcel of land, on the west the river and on the east the hill.

The lease from Maria Van Rensselaer and Hendrick Van Rensselaer was subject to an annual ground rent, in lieu of all other dues, of three and three-fourth bushels of wheat, and two fat hens or capons.

In November, 1731, Dirck Van der Heyden conveyed the above land to his three sons, Jacob, David and Mattys.

THE INVASION OF BURGOYNE.

In the month of August, 1777, the people of the manor of Rensselaerwyck became greatly excited in consequence of the news that Gen. John Burgoyne was rapidly advancing by the way of Fort Edward with a large body of British

soldiery, Hessian mercenaries and a force of hostile Indians. It was Burgoyne's intention to form a junction with that part of the British army commanded by Sir William Howe, who was to ascend the Hudson and meet him at Albany. Seemingly assured of accomplishing this purpose, he wrote to Gen. Howe that he was likely to be in possession of Albany before the 22d or 23d of the month. Not having a sufficient force to withstand the advance of the British invader, Gen. Philip Schuyler, in command of the northern department of the American army, retreated down the river road, and on the 14th day of the month encamped his small body of continental troops upon Haver and Van Schaick islands.

The apparent inability of the American troops to cope with the British force of Burgoyne spread a great alarm among the inhabitants of the frontier towns and among the farmers residing along the line of Burgoyne's march. The ferry of the Van der Heyden family became the converging point of the frightened people, who with their families and flocks were hastening southward to escape massacre and the pillage of their movable property. The entire country in and around the confluence of the Mohawk and Hudson rivers was filled with stories of burned homes, of desolated and destroyed households, of inhuman cruelties, of plunder and of brutal outrages. Having taken the old Van Schaick household for his headquarters, General Schuyler ordered the construction of a formidable line of earthworks along the northeastern and northwestern sides of Haver island, in order to defend the approaches to the fords at Half Moon Point, as the site of Waterford was then called. The chief engineer of the army of the north was the brave Pole, Thaddeus Kosciusko, and under his superintendence and direction these defensive works were constructed. These remarkably well-preserved works attest to this day the care and labor bestowed upon them by the soldiers of General Schuyler's little army.

GEN. SCHUYLER RELIEVED BY GEN. GATES.

It was at Van Schaick's island that General Horatio Gates relieved General Philip Schuyler of the command of the army of the northern department. The apparent want of success of General Schuyler induced Congress to make this change. General Gates two days after assuming the command of the department wrote the following letter to General Washington, then with the army, in Bucks county, in Pennsylvania:

HEADQUARTERS, VAN SCHAICK'S ISLAND, AUGUST 22, 1777.—SIR: Upon my arrival in this department

I found the main body of the army encamped upon Van Schaick's island, which is made by the sprouts of the Mohawk river joining with the Hudson river, nine miles north of Albany. A brigade under Gen. Poor encamped at Loudon's ferry, on the south bank of the Mohawk river, five miles from hence; a brigade under Gen. Lincoln had joined Gen. Stark at Bennington, and a brigade under Gen. Arnold marched the 15th inst. to join the militia of Tryon county, to raise the siege of Fort Stanwix. Upon leaving Philadelphia the prospect this way appeared very gloomy; but the severe checks the enemy have met with at Bennington and in Tryon county have given a more pleasing view to public affairs. Particular accounts of the signal victory gained by Gen. Stark, and the severe blow Gen. Herkimer gave Sir John Johnson and the scalpers under his command, have been transmitted to your excellency by Gen. Schuyler. I anxiously expect the arrival of an express from Gen. Arnold with an account of the total defeat of the enemy in that quarter. By my calculation he reached Fort Stanwix the day before yesterday. Cols. Livingston's and Courtland's regiments arrived yesterday and immediately joined Gen. Poor's division. I shall also order Gen. Arnold, upon his return, to march to that post. I cannot sufficiently thank your excellency for sending Col. Morgan's corps to this army. They will be of the greatest service to it, for until the late successes this way I am told the army were quite panic-struck by the Indians and their tory and Canadian assassins in Indian dresses. Horrible, indeed, have been the cruelties they have wantonly committed upon many of the miserable inhabitants, inasmuch that it is not fair for Gen. Burgoyne, even if the bloody hatchet he has so barbarously used should find its way into his own head. Gov. Clinton will be here to-day. Upon his arrival I shall consult with him and Gen. Lincoln upon the best plan to distress, and I hope finally defeat the enemy. I am sorry to be necessitated to acquaint your excellency how neglectfully your orders have been executed at Springfield—few of the militia demanded are yet arrived, but I hear of great numbers upon the march. Your excellency's advice in regard to Morgan's corps, etc., shall be carefully observed. My scouts and spies inform me that the enemy's headquarters and main body are at Saratoga, and that they have lately been repairing the bridges between that place and Stillwater. As soon as time and circumstances will admit I shall send your excellency a general return of this army. I am, sir, your excellency's most obedient humble servant.

HORATIO GATES.

His Excellency, Gen. WASHINGTON.

THE MEN OF BATTLE OF 1777.

In these dark and perilous days the men in the villages and upon the farms along the upper Hudson took up arms in defense of their homes, and were found doing duty in the different militia regiments of the county. The following return of a brigade of militia of the county of Albany, of which Abraham Ten Bro-

eck was brigadier general, dated Fort Edward, July 18, 1777, designates the different commanders and the number of men belonging to their regiments, at the time Gen. Schuyler had command of the department of the north:

	Rank and file.
Col. Jacob Lansing's regiment.....	42
Col. Abraham Wimple's regiment.....	132
Col. Francis Nicoll's regiment.....	46
Col. Killian Van Rensselaer's regiment.....	90
Col. Gerrit Vandenberg's regiment.....	42
Col. Stephen J. Schuyler's regiment.....	151
Col. Robert Van Rensselaer's regiment.....	109
Col. Abraham Van Alstyne's regiment.....	34
Col. Peter Van Noy's regiment.....	223
Col. Peter B. Livingston's regiment.....	190
Col. Anthony Van Borzen's regiment.....	62
Col. Jacobus Van Schoonhoven's regiment.....	118
Col. John McCrea's regiment.....	150
Col. Johannes Knickerbocker's regiment.....	37
Col. Peter Vrooman's regiment.....	57
Col. William B. Whiting's regiment.....	257
Total.....	1,753

The Lansingburgh company, of which Cornelius Noble was captain, belonged to Stephen J. Schuyler's regiment.

The army of the North, commanded by Gen. Horatio Gates, having secured the necessary munitions, broke camp on September 8 and marched toward Stillwater, where it arrived the next day. The force under Gen. Gates at this time numbered about 6,600 men.

DUTCH NAMES.

The Dutch language, *Nederduitsch*, was at the time of the war of the revolution the common vernacular of the people residing along the upper Hudson, or the North river, *de Noord rivier*. Opposite Oats island, *Haver Eylant*, was in 1778 *de nieuwe Stadt*, the new city of Lansingburgh, which name was used to distinguish it from *de oude Stadt*, the old city of Albany, incorporated in 1686. Opposite the ferry farm, *pontpacht*, of the Van der Heyden family was Stony Point, *Steen Hoek*, a conspicuous ridge of shale rock projecting into the river, where now is the terminus of Buffalo street, West Troy, a part of which forms the foundation of the house standing on the southeast corner of Buffalo street and Broadway. The Mohawk river, *de Maecass rivier*, then emptied its water by four branches, *vier spruyten*, into the Hudson. On the island, between the first and second *spruyten*, was a green wood of pines, *een groen bosch*, from which Green island took its name. On the site of Troy were the farm houses, *paght-huizen*, of Jacob Van der Heyden, Dirk Van der Heyden, Mattys Van der Heyden, and below the Poesten-kill that of Jan Van Beuren. Still southward, in the river, were three islands, respectively called Buckers, *Vlachte* and Schuyler's *eylants*. Here and there along the river, within inclosed spaces of land of one or two *morgens* in extent (a *morgen* being equal to two English acres) was a farm house built of brick, *gebakken steen*, baked stone. From their doors, *deuren*, one could view

the arable land, *bouw landt*, or the pasture-ground, *wei-landt*, and the adjacent creek, *kill*, that belonged to these farms.

After the surrender of Burgoyne, a sense of security came upon these scattered homes. No longer did the frightful deeds of Indian massacre disturb their peace, nor a threatened desolation add a burden of fear to their quietude. *The goeden morgen, or goeden avoird or hoe vaart gij?* good morning, or good evening, or how d'ye do? of the farmers were now more hearty and cordial. No longer did they with eager questioning ask each other, *is 'er eening nieuws?* is there any news?

Although in their barns, *schauwen*, there was not as much hay, *hooi*, nor as much wheat, *tarwe*, nor as much barley, *garst*, nor in their corn-lofts as much corn, *koorn*, as had been in them in the winter before the invasion of Burgoyne, they were none the less thankful that there still remained shelter and food sufficient for their horses, *paerden*, and cattle, *ree*, which they in the summer had driven to hiding places at the approach of the English invader. Many of these thrifty farmers with their sons, had joined the army as *Krijgs-volk*, war people, or militia men, and had there ennobled their humble service with such conspicuous displays of unconscious heroism and bravery as to call forth the personal praise of their commanders and comrades. Some less martial had by substitution sent *de negers*, the negroes, their *slaaven*, slaves, who were to be seen in battle fighting as bravely as their white companions in arms.

FERRY HOOK.

In 1786 the present site of Troy, known by the name of Ferry Hook, was occupied by the three farms of Jacob I., Jacob D. and Matthias Van der Heyden. The first and eldest, whose farm extended from where is now Grand Division street northward to the Piscawen kill, resided in a small, one-story brick dwelling, a short remove from the junction of the Hoosick and River roads, where now is the building known as No. 548 River street, between Hoosick and Vanderheyden streets.

Jacob D. Van der Heyden, known to the early inhabitants of the village of Troy as the "Patroon," lived in a frame building on the east side of the River road, now the southeast corner of Ferry and River streets.

Matthias, the youngest of the three farmers, dwelt in the old brick building still standing on the southeast corner of Division and River streets, whose farm extended southward of the line of Division street to the Poesten kill. At this time Lansingburgh, known as New City, had already grown into a village of some im-

portance. The Van der Heydens, observing the growing wealth of Abraham J. Lansing, who had in 1771 divided a part of his farm into building lots, streets and alleys, and had attracted thither a number of New England emigrants, at length consented to part with portions of their farms to a few of the more persistent and far-seeing Rhode Island and Connecticut men who persuaded them to lease, here and there, along the river bank, a lot sufficient for the erection and accommodation of a dwelling and a store.

Among the first to secure such a place was Benjamin Thurber from Providence, Rhode Island. The following advertisement which appeared in the *Northern Centinel and Lansingburgh Advertiser*, June 4, 1787, manifests the business which engaged his attention at this early period in the history of Troy:

Benjamin Thurber hereby acquaints the Public that he continues to sort his New Cash Store, at the sign of the Bunch of Grapes at the Fork of Hoosack Road, near Mr. Jacob Vanderheyden's with East, West-Indian and European goods of all kinds. For which he will receive, in lieu of Cash, black Salts, Shipping Furs, Wheat, Corn, Rye, Butter, Cheese, Flax and Flax Seed, Tallow, Hogs' lard, Gammons, Pork, Bees-Wax and old Pewter. He also continues to receive ashes, as usual, to supply his new erected Pot and Pearl Ash factory, and will pearl black Salts in the best manner on Equitable Terms; and also will give the highest Price for black salts.

N. B.—A number of New French Muskets for sale at the above store.

Following him, came Benjamin Covell from Providence and secured a lot on the west side of River street, between Ferry and Division streets. On his arrival he wrote as follows to his brother Silas:

FERRY HOOK, Nov. 16, 1786.—I arrived here the 2d. This country is the best for business I ever saw. I will go into my store the 18th of November; hired it for six months for £12 lawful money. Done more business in one day than in one week in Providence. The night of the 15th, after sundown, took in twenty dollars. Got my goods first from Albany, but in the spring will go to New York. I am one mile from Benjamin Thurber's down the river. They are all well. I board to Stephen Ashley's, the same man that I hire of. He appears to be a clever man, and keeps a large tavern, which is a great advantage to me. BENJ. COVELL.

Capt. Stephen Ashley, to whom Benjamin Covell refers in his letter, was keeping a tavern in the old brick building of Matthias Van der Heyden, standing on the southeast corner of Division and River streets, at that time being the east side of the river road.

Dr. Samuel Gale of Killingworth, Conn., was the next person to come to Ferry Hook, who

built a residence on the second lot south of the southwest corner of Ferry and River streets. These early settlers in time attracted other New Englanders to Ferry Hook, or Ashley's ferry, as it was sometimes called, in consequence of Capt. Stephen Ashley having leased the ferry from Matthias Van der Heyden, and which he held until the summer of 1788.

Elkanah Watson, returning from a journey in the West in the fall of 1788, thus wrote in his journal concerning the little hamlet :

From Schenectady, I passed the road to Ashley's Ferry, six miles above Albany. On the east side of the river, at this point, a new town has been recently laid out, named Vanderheyden. This place is situated precisely at the head of navigation on the Hudson. Several bold and enterprising adventurers have already settled here; a number of capacious warehouses and several dwellings are already erected. It is favorably situated in reference to the important and growing trade of Vermont and Massachusetts; and I believe it not only bids fair to be a serious thorn in the side of New City, but in the issue a fatal rival. I think Vanderheyden must, from its more eligible position, attain ultimate ascendancy.

In consequence of the unanticipated rapid growth of the little hamlet which had for several years been known under different names, the enterprising settlers assembled together on Monday evening, January 5, 1789, and resolved that the place should thereafter be known as Troy. They published this notice in the papers of Albany and Lansingburgh :

To the Public : This evening the freeholders of the place lately known by the name of Vanderheyden's or Ashley's Ferry, situated on the east bank of the Hudson river, about seven miles above Albany, met for the purpose of establishing a name for said place, when by a majority of voices it was confirmed that in the future it should be known by the name of Troy. From its present improved state, and the yet more pleasing prospect of its popularity arising from the natural advantages in the mercantile line, it may not be too sanguine to expect, at no very distant period, to see Troy as famous for her trade and navigation, as many of our first towns.

Troy, January 5, 1789.

To this new center of trade and commerce the tide of emigration from the older Atlantic coast states turned, contributing men whose active minds and industrious hands soon gave to Troy a prestige for the rapid development of its advantages of situation at the height of navigation, and for the indomitable zeal constantly manifested to enhance their interests among the farmers from whom they obtained grain and produce which formed the chief staples of traffic. In 1788 Ephraim Morgan, Jonathan Hunt and John Boardman were numbered among its mer-

chants. In 1789 Ebenezer and Samuel Willson from Mason, N. H.; Mahlon Taylor, Albany; Pawling, Abraham Ten Eyck, Richard Grimm, James Caldwell, Josiah Kellogg, Israel Knae, Robert McClellan, Isaac Rogers and Henry O. thout are found among those engaged in business in the growing village.

OLD WAYS OF TRAVELING.

The early merchants of Troy were not slow in competing with Lansingburgh and Albany for the trade of the surrounding country. As soon as the Dutch farmers began bringing their wheat and other productions to Troy, means were at once adopted to establish the necessary transportation of them to New York. This is quite evident from the following advertisement in the *Northern Centinel* :

The subscribers respectfully inform the public that the schooner *Flora* of 60 tons burthen, (date from New London) will in future ply between New York and Mr. Vanderheyden's ferry, two miles below Lansingburgh, from which place she will freight for New York, or elsewhere, on the same terms they freight from Albany. The vessel has good accommodations for passengers. Those gentlemen who have any commands must apply to Abraham Van Arnam, near Benjamin Thurber's store, who makes it his business to wait on such as may please to favor him. CASPER FRATS,
SEPTEMBER 10, 1787. YALLES MANDEVILLE.

Anyone taking passage in a sloop or schooner sailing to New York, or from that city to Troy, at this early day, generally expected, if the wind was favorable, to make the voyage in two days at the furthest, but should the wind be variable and continue to blow in the opposite direction to that in which he was going, the journey was often lengthened to several weeks. When there was a head-wind and the tide against the vessel, the sloop would be compelled to lay to. If there was a period of calm weather, she went with the tide six hours and then anchored six hours. Sailing with "a white-ash breeze" was a burlesque phrase to express that the men employed on the vessel were rowing with long white-ash oars, or "sweeps," as they were called. These sweeps were about 20 feet in length, and when used in connection with the drift of the tide, about 14 miles a day could be made by a sloop in calm weather. Oftentimes the large anchor of the sloop was let go, and a boat sent ahead to a bar, with a line and a small anchor called a kedge. The kedge being dropped on the bar, the large anchor was taken up and the sloop by means of the line attached was towed forward. The operation of moving a vessel in this way was called kedging. It was a very tiresome and slow process, slower, in fact, than the move-

ment of a canal boat. A sloop generally had accommodations for conveying from 10 to 15 passengers, having as high as 14 or 16 berths in a cabin.

THE STAGES TO NEW YORK.

In winter persons going to New York either went on horseback or took passage in the stages that at this time ran between Albany and New York once a week. In 1789 the state legislature granted Ananias Platt, an innkeeper in Lansingburgh, a right to run a daily stage between that place and Albany, which going and returning passed through Troy, stopping for five minutes at Capt. Ashley's tavern. Passengers were charged four shillings for a round trip, 20 pounds of baggage being allowed to each person paying full fare. The exclusive right of running a line of stages, on the east side of the Hudson river, between the cities of New York and Albany, for a term of 10 years, was granted by the legislature, April 4, 1785, to Isaac Van Wyck, Talmage Hall and John Kinney. "They were to furnish at least two good and sufficient covered stages, such to be drawn by four able horses, the price per passenger not to exceed four pence per mile, with liberty of carrying 14 pounds of baggage. The stages were to proceed at least once each week on the journey from the respective cities unless they were prevented by the badness of the roads or some uncommon accident. In the summer of 1794 the fare by stage from Albany to New York was \$7.25; in the following winter \$8. In the winter of 1796 the fare was \$10, but in the spring of 1797 it was reduced to \$6.

THE TOWN OF TROY FOUNDED.

On the 7th of February, 1791, Rensselaer county was erected by an act of the legislature. On the 18th of March following the town of Troy was formed by a legislative enactment. The act relating to it reads:

That from and after the first Monday in April next, all that part of the town of Rensselaerwyck in the county of Rensselaer which lies north of a line to be drawn from a point on the east bank of the Hudson river sixteen miles distant from the southwest corner of the town of Rensselaerwyck, and running from thence east to the west bounds of the town of Petersburg, shall be, and is hereby created, into a distinct and separate town by the name of Troy, and that the first town meeting of the said town of Troy shall be held at the dwelling house now occupied by Stephen Ashley, in the said town.

On Monday the 4th of April a town meeting was held at Ashley's tavern, and the first town officers elected. They were:

Supervisor—Cornelius Lansing.

Assessors—Derick Lane, Ephraim Morgan, David

DeFreest, Henry H. Gardinier and Nicholas Wager.

Constables—David Henry, William Hickok, Lawrence Dorset and Samuel Colamore.

Collector of Taxes—David Henry.

Overseers of the Poor—David Henry and Henry H. Gardinier.

Commissioners of Highways—Cornelius Lansing, Mahlon Taylor and Jacob Wager.

Town Clerk—Cornelius Lansing.

From the territory first embraced in the town of Troy the section known as the town of Brunswick, and parts of Grafton and Lansingburgh, were taken off March 20, 1807, and a portion of Greenbush in 1836. In 1814 a part of Brunswick was annexed.

TROY IN 1791.

The farm of Jacob D. Van der Heyden, extending from the present centre line of Grand Division street on the north to the middle of Division street on the south, was surveyed and laid out into lots, streets and alleys in 1787 by Flores Bancker.

We are told that "it was, with a foresight not always observed, laid out with a view of its ultimately being a place of considerable magnitude; and Philadelphia, with its regular squares and rectangular streets, was selected as its model, by the advice of a gentleman who had made a then rare visit to that celebrated city."

The farm of Matthias Van der Heyden, bounded north by Division street and south by the Poesten kill, was laid out into building lots by John E. Van Alen in 1793.

The property of Jacob I. Van der Heyden, extending from Grand Division street to the Piscawen kill, was surveyed and divided into lots and streets by John E. Van Alen, also in 1793.

An inquisitive sight-seer could only have counted about 65 buildings along the newly laid out streets of the village of Troy in 1791. These had been erected principally on River street, between Division and Albany (now Broadway) streets. The brick building still standing on the southeast corner of Division and River streets, stood the farthest south. From that point northward on the east side of the street to the corner of First and River streets there were 16 houses and stores. On the west side of River street, from the site of the Fulton market to Division street, were distributed 17 buildings. On both sides of First street from Division to River streets there were only 12 houses. On Second street there were two; one on Third and one on Fourth. On both sides of River street from Federal street to the Piscawen kill only 10 buildings could be counted.

The following persons embraced the heads of families, the merchants and manufacturers of the place in 1791:

Elijah Adams,
Asa Anthony,
Zephaniah Anthony,
Capt. Stephen Ashley,
Jesse Benham,
James Betts,
Jacob Bishop,
Daniel Carpenter,
Benjamin Covell,
Jonathan Davis,
John Dickens,
Lawrence Dorset,
Capt. Fellows,
Casper Frats,
Abraham Frear,
Dr. Samuel Gale,
Benjamin Gorton,
Philip Heartt,
Capt. John Hudson,
Christopher Hutton,
Timothy Hutton,
Adam Keeling,
Robert Kincaide,
Israel Knapp,

Robert McClellan,
Daniel Merritt,
Ephriam Morgan,
Henry Oudthout,
Col. Albert Pawling,
John Pease,
Wait Rathbun,
William Sheldon,
Capt. Squires,
Abraham Ten Eyck,
Jacob D. Van der Heyden,
Jacob I. Van der Heyden,
Matthias Van der Heyden,
Nanning Van der Heyden,
James Wardwell,
Capt. John Warren,
Solomon Wilbur,
Capt. Joseph Wilson,
Samuel Wilson,
George Young,
Henry Young.

THE INDOMITABLE ZEAL OF THE TROJANS.

The local advantages that would accrue to the village in which the county court-house and jail should be built, were plainly apparent to the people of Troy and Lansingburgh. The Trojans were too zealous and enterprising to permit the county seat being placed at Lansingburgh without a struggle on their part to secure its location at Troy. They had carefully considered their means to obtain the county buildings and at once began to demand the privilege of competing for their erection in Troy. Lansingburgh as the older village set forth its claims of age and growth, and Troy argued that its position was central and convenient of approach. As the decision in regard to the selection of the site for the court-house and jail lay with the legislature, the people of the village with practical shrewdness nominated as candidates for senator and assemblymen individuals of unquestioned ability and unequaled popularity. These were Robert Woodworth for senator; Christopher Hutton, Josiah Masters, Nicholas Staats, Jonathan Niles and Benjamin Hicks for assemblymen. This ticket was elected, although a mixed one, partly Federalist and anti-Federalist.

To avoid any appearance of partiality, these members of the legislature announced that the village which would subscribe the more liberally for the erection of county buildings would have the preference in the decision. "Let no man despise thy youth," St. Paul enjoined upon Timothy. The advice of the apostle to the Gentiles was the quickening thought of the early Trojans. Lansingburgh was satisfied that the people of the little village of Troy were too few in number, young adventurers, with no capital, and were already burdened with personal debts. But time provided another factor of success which the people of Lansingburgh had overlooked in their estimate

of the ability of the people of Troy to dare and to do. Quietly and persistently a subscription paper was circulated and signed, some were writing their names for more than they were actually worth, while others gave generously from their more abundant means.

THE COUNTY BUILDINGS AWARDED TO TROY

The "act for building a court-house and gaol in the county of Rensselaer" was passed January 11, 1793.

The first section reads: "The supervisors of the several towns in the county of Rensselaer, for the time being or the major part of them, shall be and they are hereby authorized and required to direct to be raised and levied on the freeholders and inhabitants of the said county the sum of six hundred pounds, for the purpose of building a court-house and gaol in said county, with the additional sum of one shilling in the pound for collecting the same, which sums shall be raised, levied and collected in the same manner as the other necessary and contingent charges of the said county are levied and collected.

Section three provides "that the said sum of six hundred pounds shall be paid into the treasury of the said county on or before the first of October next."

Section four provides "that Cornelius Lansing, Jacob C. Schermerhorn, Abraham Ten Eyck, Mahlon Taylor and Jacob D. Van der Heyden shall be the commissioners to superintend the building of said court house and gaol; and that the said commissioners, or the major part of them, shall and may contract with workmen and purchase materials for the erecting the same, and shall from time to time draw upon the treasurer of the said county for the money for the aforesaid purpose."

Section five of the act provides "that it shall and may be lawful for the treasurer to retain in his hands the sum of three pence in the pound for his trouble in receiving and paying out the money to be raised."

Section six. "That the court house and gaol to be built, shall be erected and built within sixty rods of the dwelling house of Stephen Ashley in the village of Troy, in the town of Troy."

Section seven. "That the aforesaid commissioners or the major part of them are hereby authorized and required to determine and fix upon some suitable place for erecting and building the aforesaid court house and gaol, within sixty rods of the dwelling house of Stephen Ashley aforesaid. And whereas it appears to the legislature that Jacob D. Van der Heyden and others, inhabitants of the village of Troy, in the town aforesaid, have promised and agreed to pay the

sum of one thousand pounds for erecting and building a court house and goal, in the said county of Rensselaer to such commissioners as should be by law appointed to build and erect the same; therefore it was provided in section eight that the said sum of one thousand pounds should be paid to the treasurer of the county for the aforesaid purposes.

TROY'S PLEDGE.

Three days after the passage of the above act, the following subscription paper was circulated among the inhabitants of Troy and its neighborhood:

To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern—Whereas, By an act of the legislature of the state of New York at their present session, it was enacted that a Court House and Gaol should be erected and built in the county of Rensselaer within sixty rods of the dwelling house of Stephen Ashley, in the village of Troy, in the town of Troy, and that the sum of one thousand pounds should be made payable to the treasurer of said county for the time being, for the purpose aforesaid, by the inhabitants of the said village in the town of Troy. Now therefore know ye that we whose names are hereunto subscribed do respectively promise to pay unto Albert Pawling and Christopher Hutton, or to one of them, to their or one of their executors, administrators or assigns, the sum of money, annexed to our respective names on demand, which money is to be appropriated to the building of a Court House and Gaol as aforesaid—dated this fourteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand and seven hundred and ninety-three:

Jacob D. Vanderheyden, two hundred pounds.	£200	0	0
Abraham Ten Eyck & Co., fifty pounds.	50	0	0
Christ' & Tim'y Hutton, thirty-five pounds.	35	0	0
Ben'jn Gorton, twenty pounds.	20	0	0
Jona' & Alsop Hunt, thirty-five pounds.	35	0	5
Benjamin Covell, fifty pounds.	50	0	0
John D. Vanderheyden, thirty pounds.	30	0	0
Mathise Vanderheyden, one hundred dollars.	40	0	0
Hugh S. McClellan.	13	0	0
Adam Keelling, eight pounds.	8	0	0
Eph'm Morgan, thirty-five pounds.	35	0	0
James Betts.	15	0	0
Jonathan Platt.	10	0	0
Caleb Russell.	5	0	0
Asa Anthony, five pounds.	5	0	0
Josiah Sheldon, three pounds.	3	0	0
Robert Power, five pounds.	5	0	0
John & Peter Frear, five pounds.	5	0	0
Daniel Harris, two pounds, 30s.	£2	0	0
Jeremiah Peirce, five pounds.	5	0	0
Leith Walker, four pounds.	4	0	0
Humphrey Clark, sixty shillings.	3	0	0
Jon'ln Warren, eight pounds.	£8	0	0
John Willson, four pounds.	4	0	0
Janica Wardwell, four pounds in plank.	4	0	0
Stephen Andres, two pounds.	2	0	0
Samuel Wilson, four pounds.	4	0	0
Lawrence Dorset.	4	0	0
John Fowler, eight pounds.	8	0	0
Solomon Wilbore, forty shillings.	2	0	0
George Greenwood, fifteen shillings.	0	15	0
his			
Hendrick Coonradt, ½ twenty dollars.	8	0	0
mark.			
John Anthony, thirty shillings.	1	10	0
Samuel Johnson, 20s.	1	0	0
Teunis Skubi, forty shillings.	2	0	0
Robert McClellan, ten pounds.	10	0	0
William Sheldon, ten pounds.	10	0	0
Platt Wickes, five pounds.	5	0	0
Hedges, Wickes & Co., fifteen pounds.	15	0	0
Casper Frats, ten pounds.	10	0	0
Abel House, four pounds.	4	0	0
John Warren, eight pounds.	8	0	0
John De Camp, six pounds.	6	0	0
Henry De Camp.	6	0	0
John Woodworth, twenty pounds.	20	0	0
Jacob D. Vanderheyden, one hundred pounds	100	0	0
more.			
James Spencer, ten pounds.	10	0	0
Mulon Taylor.	100	0	0

John Kineald.	10	0	0
Josiah Owen, eight pounds.	8	0	0
Jonathan Larnabee, eight pounds.	8	0	0
Samuel Miner, five pounds.	5	0	0
Walt Rathbun, ten pounds.	10	0	0
Josiah Kellogg, four pounds.	4	0	0
Philip Heurt, four pounds.	4	0	0
William Willard, four pounds.	4	0	0
Eben'r Willson, three pounds.	3	0	0
Ben'jah Wright, twelve pounds.	12	0	0
Benj. & S. Gale.	15	0	0
Anthony Goodspeed, ten pounds.	10	0	0
George Dickens, ten pounds.	10	0	0
Daniel & M. Merritt, thirty pounds.	30	0	0
James Van Blarum, three pounds.	3	0	0
Moses Bears, eight pounds.	8	0	0

As a gift, Jacob D. Van der Heyden conveyed to the supervisors of the county lots 145, 146 and 147, on the southeast corner of Congress and Second streets, on March 22, 1793, whereon the building of the court house began that year.

THE ERECTION OF THE GOAL.

The legislature on March 25, 1794, passed a second act to raise a further sum of eight hundred pounds for completing the court house and goal, under which act Cornelius Lansing, Jacob E. Schermerhorn, Abram Ten Eyck, Mahlon Taylor and Jacob D. Van der Heyden, together with John Van Rensselaer, James Dole, Ephraim Morgan and Benjamin Gorton were appointed to act as commissioners to superintend the erection of the county buildings.

By a third act passed April 3, 1797, the supervisors of the county were authorized to raise a further sum of \$3,500, together with an addition of five cents on the dollar for collecting the same, and one cent on each dollar for treasurer's fees.

By a further act, passed April 4, 1798, a sum of \$500 was authorized to be raised for making certain necessary accommodations for the goal and certain repairs for the court house.

On November 11, 1794, Benjamin Gorton, clerk of the supervisors, advertised for proposals for the building of the county jail. The new court house, in which the court of common pleas was the first to convene on the second Tuesday in June, 1794, was a two-story brick building, with a cupola for a bell, occupying the site of the present court house. In 1795 the goal was completed, being built of brick, two stories high, with iron barred windows. It was erected on the southwest corner of the alley, at the rear of the court house.

In the court house yard were erected a whipping post and stocks. Here, at intervals, a class of criminals were publicly whipped, receiving from the sheriff or his deputy so many lashes, less than 40, as a punishment for their misdeeds. The unfortunates who were placed in the stocks were made the objects of the ridicule of passers-by, and were often pelted by the village children with the most disagreeable missiles that they could find for the purpose.

CHAPTER III.

THE TOWN OF TROY.

THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE ERECTED IN IT—SECRETS CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF THE FARMERS' BANK—THE EARLY PHYSICIANS OF THE COUNTY—INAUGURAL PROCESSION OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—NEW COUNTY BUILDINGS ERECTED—THE COMPETITIVE SPIRIT OF THE TROY PEOPLE—THEIR MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES—THE CALAMITOUS FIRES OF 1820, 1854 AND 1862—AN HONORABLE WAR RECORD—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

One is no little surprised to find such a quickening spirit of enterprise in so small a village as Troy was in 1794. Eight years before this date on its site were only three houses—the homes of three Dutch farmers; one built in 1752, now standing on the southeast corner of Division and River streets; one erected in 1756, now forming a part of the brick building known as No. 543 River street, between Hoosick and Vanderheyden streets; the third, a two-story frame house, built, perhaps, about the middle of the eighteenth century, opposite the ferry, belonging to the old homestead. In 1830, this last house, formerly occupied by Jacob D. Van der Heyden, on the southeast corner of Ferry and River streets, was rented by John Barney and kept as a boarding-house. South of Division street was the farm of Matthias Van der Heyden, which was still under cultivation, while northward the farm of Jacob D. Van der Heyden, extending to Grand Division street, adjoining the river, was a barren plain covered with small pines and scrub oaks. Where is now Sixth street or the railroad track, there was a small stream that ran southwardly to the Poes-ten kill.

THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE.

While the active-minded, diligent and sanguine men of this small community were doing with their might the things they deemed the most important for the development of the local advantages of the place, they were also respecters of the

"Divinity that shapes our ends,
Rough-hew them how we will."

Without any clergyman to direct or to lead them, they with common accord met together on Sundays at the sound of the conch shell used at the ferry, in the ball-chamber of Capt. Stephen Ashley's tavern, near the northwest corner of Ferry and River streets, where Dr. Samuel Gale or Col. Albert Pawling would read to them selected sermons. When the number of the inhabitants had increased, desiring a more united organization, the citizens assembled at Ashley's tavern on the 31st of December, 1791, and organized the Presbyterian congregation of the town of Troy, and selected for its first trustees Jacob D. Van der Heyden, Dr. Samuel Gale, Ephraim Morgan, John McChesney, sr., Benjamin Covell and Benjamin Gorton. A frame building for a meeting house having been erected a short distance south of the southeast corner of Congress and First streets, and the trustees desiring to complete it, the following memorial was drawn up on the 26th of November, 1792, and presented to the people of Troy:

Whereas, The inhabitants of the town have begun and partly completed a church building, but by reason of the almost infant settlement, and a variety of other public expenses, which must necessarily attend a newly settled town, they find it burdensome for them to carry their wishes into effect without calling in the aid of their friends and fellow-Christians; we therefore, the trustees of said congregation, have and do hereby appoint Jacob D. Van der Heyden to present this our memorial to all whom he shall think proper, requesting their aid and assistance in the completion of the above undertaking.

Sufficient money having been subscribed, a contract for doing the wood-work was let to Abel House, Robert Powers, Henry and John De Camp and Benjamin Smith for "forty-six pounds, thirteen shillings, York money, in cash; and ninety-three pounds, seven shillings, in European and West Indian goods at the retail prices in Troy." When the Rev. Jonas Coe was ordained in the new meeting-house on the 25th of June, 1793, blocks of wood were brought into the unfurnished building, and boards were placed on them for the seating of the people in attendance. The installation services, a newspaper of that time, says, were "conducted with propriety and dignity becoming the solemnity of the occasion."

THE FIRST VILLAGE OFFICERS.

The first village officers were created by an act of the legislature, entitled "An act to appoint trustees to take and hold certain lands therein mentioned, and for other purposes," passed March 25, 1794. The first part of the act relates to the village of Lansingburgh. Section six relates to Troy:

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That Jacob D. Van der Heyden, Benjamin Covell, Anthony Goodspeed, John Pease, Ephraim Morgan, Christopher Hutton and Samuel Gale, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be the first trustees for the freeholders and inhabitants of that part of the town of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer, residing within the limits following, viz: Beginning on the north side of a certain creek called Poesten creek, where there was formerly a saw-mill fifty-eight chains from Hudson's river, and runs from thence down along the said creek to the said river, thence up along the said river to a small creek called the Meadow creek, [a little north of Hoosick street,] thence along the said creek into the woods, south seventy degrees easterly, forty chains, thence south twenty-three degrees and thirty minutes westerly, along the west side of the land of the late Albert Bratt, one hundred and six chains to the place of beginning. The above courses to be run as the magnetic needle pointed in the year one thousand seven hundred and twenty. And shall continue to be trustees as aforesaid until the first Tuesday in May next, and until others shall be chosen in their place; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the freeholders and inhabitants for the time being, residing within the village of Troy, within the boundaries aforesaid, and qualified by law to vote at town meetings, to assemble on the second Tuesday of May next, and annually on the second Tuesday of May thereafter, at such place, and at such time of the day as the trustees for the time being, or the major part of them, shall by public advertisement appoint, and under the direction of the said trustees, or such of them as shall be present, who are hereby made inspectors of such election, then and there, by a majority of voices, to

elect seven inhabitants, being freeholders, to be trustees as aforesaid, who shall continue in office until the second Tuesday of May in the next ensuing year, and until others shall be chosen in their place.

The same act empowered the freeholders and inhabitants of the village to ordain and establish prudential rules and orders relative to the cleansing and keeping in order and repair the common streets and highways of Troy; also, "to compel the housekeepers in Troy" to furnish themselves with a sufficient number of fire buckets, and with necessary tools and implements for extinguishing of fires, and to impose such penalties on offenders as the majority of the freeholders and inhabitants should from time to time deem proper, not exceeding forty shillings for any one offense.

The trustees also, "with all convenient speed," were to elect a sufficient number of men willing to accept, not exceeding 15 in number, to have the care, management, working and use of the fire engine belonging to the village.

EVIDENCES OF GROWTH.

Before Troy became a post-village letters to its inhabitants were directed to "Albany" and were brought to the village by a postman. After Lansingburgh, in 1792, obtained a postoffice letters for the people of Troy were directed thither. Early in 1796 Nathan Williams, at that time a law student in the office of John Woodworth, was appointed postmaster of the village of Troy.

In the following year, Troy's first newspaper, the *Farmers' Oracle*, was published by Luther Pratt & Co. The first issue of the paper was announced in the *American Spy*, of Lansingburgh:

Luther Pratt & Co. inform their old customers that they have removed their printing material from Lansingburgh to Troy, and commenced publishing a newspaper at their printing office in Water street, opposite the ferry, entitled *Farmers' Oracle*, printed every Tuesday, at 12 shillings per annum.

Troy, January 31, 1797.

THE FIRST PARTICULAR BAPTIST CHURCH.

Among the early inhabitants of the growing village were a number of families which had previously been connected with Baptist societies in the places where they formerly resided. Of these persons were Silas Covell and wife, of Providence, R. I., Adam Keeling, Ebenezer Wilson and John Howard. Social worship was held at first at the dwellings of the Baptist people. At length a room was rented in a building near the corner of Albany and River streets, which was used as a place of assembly. On the 15th of October, 1795, a church

organization was effected under the name of "The First Particular Baptist church in the village of Troy." Through the liberality of Jacob D. Van der Heyden, the society became possessed of lot number 231, south of the old Third street burying ground. On January 4, 1804, Adam Keeling, Edward Tylee, Silas Covell, Ebenezer Wilson, Ebenezer Jones and Noble S. Johnson were elected trustees, who with other members of the congregation made contributions for the erection in 1805 of a small meeting house. The society in a few years had so increased in numbers that a large room for conference meetings was needed and built. In 1846 the old church edifice was removed and the present building erected.

Referring to the taking of the census in 1800, the editor of the Troy weekly paper says of the village:

To exhibit, however, some idea of the rapidity of our growth, it will be sufficient for us to observe that 15 years ago there were in this village (now comprising somewhat more than a mile square) but two dwelling houses, and probably not more than 15 inhabitants; and that, at the present time it contains about 300 dwelling-houses (independent of stores, etc.) and 1,802 inhabitants. A population so rapid has, we believe, but seldom been witnessed in the United States. Situated as we are at the head of the sloop navigation of an extensive river, and surrounded on every side by a fertile country, whose population has also experienced a rapid increase, our commerce has increased in at least an equal ratio with our inhabitants.

At this time the land, from the mouth of the Poesten kill southward to within 20 rods of the Van Buren house, belonged to the farm of Stephen I. Schuyler. From the latter point to the Mathiss kill Mrs. Van Buren's farm extended. From the last named kill, southward about 70 rods, was the mill-property of Thomas L. Witbeck, leased from David DeFriest. The mills of Thomas L. Witbeck occupied the present site of the Bessemer steel works.

STRIFE FOR THE SITE OF THE FARMERS' BANK.

When the state legislature, on the 31st of March, 1801, passed the act to incorporate the Farmers' bank, with a capital stock of \$300,000, it provided that the bank should be located at such place in the town of Troy as Hosea Moffit, Jonathan Brown, John E. Van Alen and James McKown, or any three of them, should designate and point out, which location, when so made, should be unalterable, and the said place should be near the road leading from Troy to Lansingburgh, and not further north than the Mill creek, nor further south than the house of Joshua Raymond; and that the bank should be erected and so far completed as to admit the

transaction of the business of the bank by the first day of December, 1801.

The first directors of the Farmers' bank were:

Troy—John Woodworth, Daniel Merritt, Benjamin Tibbits, Christopher Hutton, Townsend McCoun and Ephraim Morgan.

Lansingburgh—Elijah James, Charles Selden, John D. Dickinson, James Hickok and William Bradley.

Waterford—Guert Van Schoonhoven and Samuel Stewart.

When the time came to determine upon the location of the bank building it seems that the majority of the directors favored the selection of a site convenient to the village of Troy. To accomplish this wish tactics of a most unbusiness like character were adopted. As a full but brief record of the proceedings of the directors respecting the selection of a site has never been heretofore published, it may be interesting to the readers of the *Troy Daily Times* to know what was the course pursued to obtain the location of the bank as near to the village as the law allowed. At a meeting of the directors, held at Jacob's hotel in Lansingburgh, June 29, 1801, the following action was taken:

On motion of Mr. Woodworth—

Resolved, Unanimously, that in case the lot for the temporary place of establishment of the bank shall fall to the village of Troy, that we will point out to the commissioners the house of Joshua Raymond, in the village of Troy, as the house contemplated in the act, and that in case it should fall to the village of Lansingburgh, we will immediately cause a temporary building to be erected on the middle ground at or near the place contemplated by the commissioners for transacting the business until the legislature shall have decided on the petition of the directors.

Resolved, unanimously, That we will unite in a petition to the legislature at the next session for obtaining the alterations in the act of incorporation to enable the directors to carry into effect the matters contemplated in the resolutions of the board respecting the permanent and temporary place for the buildings, and that we will, unitedly and severally, use our best exertions in the premises.

On motion of Mr. Selden:

Resolved, That we will severally keep secret the rent of the lot for the temporary place of establishing the bank, and our resolutions this day passed respecting the same, until the farther order of the board on the same.

On motion of Mr. Woodward, seconded by Mr. Bradley:

Resolved, That this board do pledge themselves individually that they will adhere to and perform the several matters contained in the preceding resolutions, and that the president put the same to the several members of the board.

This was done by the president, John D. Dickinson.

On motion of Mr. Woodward, seconded by Mr. Hutton:

Resolved, unanimously, That this board will immediately proceed to determine by lot agreeable to the resolutions of the 6th day of June as amended, the temporary place for the establishment of the bank, and that Mr. Bradley do prepare and roll up for the purpose five ballots with the word "Lansingburgh" written thereon, and five ballots with the word "Troy" written thereon; that the same be placed and shook together in a hat by Mr. Hutton and drawn by Mr. Merritt blindfold in the presence of the board, and that the said temporary place shall be at the village, the name of which shall be written on two of the three first ballots so to be drawn.

The ballots having been prepared by Mr. Hutton and Mr. Bradley, Mr. Merritt drew one after another three ballots out of the hat so prepared, on opening which it appeared that the word "Lansingburgh" was written on the two first and the word "Troy" on the third. Mr. Merritt then proceeded to draw the residue of the ballots which, having been all opened, were found to be prepared agreeable to the preceding resolution.

At a subsequent meeting it was determined that a banking house should be built 30 by 40 feet and a kitchen 18 by 21 feet, and that Messrs. Hutton, Hlickok and Merritt should be the building committee. Jacob D. Van der Heyden having presented the bank with two lots on the northwest corner of Middleburgh and River streets, two other adjoining lots were purchased from him, and the foundations of the banking house built directly over the boundary line of Troy and Lansingburgh.

On the 1st of December, 1801, the Farmers' bank, Hugh Peebles cashier, commenced business in its newly-erected building. The bank-vault, built of brick, is still to be seen in the cellar, as it was left November 15, 1803, when the bank was removed to a new building erected on the second lot south of the southwest corner of First and State streets.

A TURNPIKE TOWARD THE WEST.

Aware that much of the trade of the country west of the Hudson was drawn to Albany, the enterprising merchants of Troy determined to attract by means of a good and direct road the Dutch farmers living toward Schenectady to bring their grain and produce to Troy. For this purpose they petitioned the legislature to grant them the right of making a turnpike to Schenectady. "An act for establishing a turnpike road from opposite the village of Troy to the city of Schenectady" was passed April 2, 1802. By it Ephraim Morgan, George Tibbits, Abraham Oothoudt and their associates were constituted a body corporate and politic by the name of "the president, directors and company of the Troy and Schenectady turnpike."

The capital stock consisted of 350 shares of \$50 each. The first officers of the company were:

President, Ephraim Morgan; directors, George Tibbits, Abraham Oothoudt (of Schenectady), Derick Lane, Abraham Ten Eyck, Albert Pawling, John Bird, Silas Covell and Daniel Merritt.

Alluding to the enterprise of the people of Troy in constructing this road, a writer says:

The expense of first opening the road west was then quite an onerous one, and drew heavily upon their spare resources. The whole expenditure for the first three miles out was raised and paid for by the subscriptions of those interested in trade at the village, but this improvement amply repaid them for the outlay and returned its cost in a few years, while great subsequent remuneration came with the increased trade directed from Albany to this point.

ST. PAUL'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first Protestant Episcopal church in Troy was organized at the court house, January 16, 1804, at which Eliakim Warren and Jeremiah Pierce were elected church wardens, and Nicholas Schuyler, David Buel, Lemuel Hawley, Thomas Davis, Thomas Hillhouse, John Bird, William S. Parker and Hugh Peebles vestrymen. Two lots on the northwest corner of Congress and Third streets—the site of Rand's hall—were purchased, on which the building committee was instructed "to contract with proper workmen to put up the building of the church, the frame to be well put up and filled in with brick, one thick."

On the 2d of July, 1804, the corner stone of the building was laid, the Rev. Jonas Coe, pastor of the Presbyterian church, assisting the Rev. David Butler. Early in the summer of 1805 the church was completed. On the 17th of July, the Rev. David Butler was granted his letter of institution as rector of St. Paul's parish by the Right Rev. Bishop Benjamin Moore.

The present church building on the northeast corner of State and Third streets was erected in 1827, and consecrated August 16, 1828.

THE RENSSELAER MEDICAL SOCIETY.

For the purpose of protecting the people of the state against impostors and quacks in the medical profession, the legislature, April 4, 1806, passed a law by which candidates desiring to enter upon the practice of physic and surgery were to be examined by censors of the medical societies throughout the state, and licensed by the judges of the county courts.

It was in accordance with the provisions of this law that the physicians and surgeons of the village of Troy and the towns of the county assembled in the court house, at Troy, on Tuesday, July 1, 1806, and there organized the Rensselaer medical society.

The minutes of this first meeting are as follows:

In conformity to an act of the legislature of the state of New York, entitled an act to incorporate medical societies for the purpose of regulating the practice of physic and surgery in this state, passed April 4, 1806, the physicians and surgeons of the county of Rensselaer to the number of twenty, viz: Benjamin Woodward, Aaron D. Patchin, Benjamin Rowe, Abner Thurber, Moses Willard, Asher Armstrong, Ely Burritt, I. M. Wells, Hezekiah Eldridge, Samuel Gale, David Gleason, Edward Davis, Alexander Rousseau, U. M. Gregory, John Loudon, Sanford Smith, Edward Ostrander, David Doolittle, Moses Hale, James H. Ball, convened in the court house in Troy and proceeded by ballot to elect their officers, when the following gentlemen were declared duly elected:

President, Dr. Benjamin Woodward; vice president, Dr. John Loudon; treasurer, Dr. Samuel Gale; secretary, Dr. I. M. Wells; censors, Dr. Ely Burritt, Dr. Moses Willard, Dr. Hezekiah Eldridge, Dr. David Doolittle, Dr. Benjamin Rowe; delegate to the medical society of the state of New York, Dr. Moses Willard. BENJAMIN WOODWARD,
Troy, July 1, 1806. Secretary, *pro tem*.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to draft a code of by-laws for the use of the Rensselaer medical society, and that Dr. Ely Burritt, Dr. Hezekiah Eldridge, Dr. Moses Willard, Dr. Moses Hale and Dr. Aaron D. Patchin to be the committee.

Resolved, That the annual meeting of the Rensselaer medical society be the first Tuesday of July, and that it be held at the court house in Troy.

Resolved, That a tax of twenty-five cents be levied upon every member for the use of the society, &c., &c.

The licenses of the early physicians, according to the law of the state, were in the following form:

STATE OF NEW YORK, RENSSELAER COUNTY—
Whereas, Samuel Gale of Troy, in the said county, physician and surgeon, hath made application to me, Thos. Sickles, one of the judges of the court of common pleas for the said county, to obtain a certificate in conformity to a law of this state, entitled "An act to regulate the practice of physick and surgery, passed the twenty-third of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, and having produced to me satisfactory evidence, that he, the said Samuel Gale, hath been regularly in the practice of physick and surgery for more than two years last past, I do in conformity to the said act, certify the same. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this thirteenth day of October, 1797.

THOS. SICKLES.

The licenses of some of the other early physicians of Troy and in the towns of the county, bear the following dates:

Dr. Barnabas Scott, September 9, 1797.
Dr. Thomas Hartwell, September 21, 1797.
Dr. Felix Greene, September 22, 1797.

Dr. David Millen, September 27, 1797.
Dr. Lewis Beebe, October 1, 1797.
Dr. Benjamin Lyon, October 1, 1797.
Dr. James H. Ball, October 2, 1797.
Dr. Francis Smith, October 8, 1797.
Dr. Ezekiel Baker, October 12, 1797.
Dr. David Doolittle, October 13, 1797.
Dr. Nicholas Schuyler, October 13, 1797.
Dr. John Loudon, October 14, 1797.
Dr. Alexander Rousseau, October 14, 1797.
Dr. Jacob Campbell, October 16, 1797.
Dr. Jason Bannister, October 17, 1797.
Dr. Jonathan P. Sill, October 20, 1797.
Dr. Jacob Hoyt, October 21, 1797.
Dr. Christopher Dillen, November 9, 1797.
Dr. Elisha Baker, November 20, 1797.
Dr. James McClung, November 23, 1797.
Dr. William Brown, November 29, 1797.
Dr. Nehemiah King, December 1, 1797.
Dr. Nicholas Harris, January 4, 1798.
Dr. Edward Ostrander, January 13, 1798.
Dr. William Baker, February 23, 1798.
Dr. Job Tripp, February 23, 1798.
Dr. Charles Beckwith, March 15, 1798.
Dr. Samuel Gale, Jr., December 11, 1798.
Dr. Jedediah Pendergast, May 6, 1800.
Dr. Hulbert Smith, May 16, 1800.
Dr. Abner Armstrong, May 27, 1800.
Dr. David Gleason, July 15, 1800.
Dr. John Robinson, August 4, 1800.
Dr. William C. Proutt, August 14, 1800.
Dr. Samuel Porter, March 26, 1801.
Dr. Silas Goodrich, May 2, 1801.
Dr. Martin Smith, July 15, 1801.
Dr. Ely Burritt, March 29, 1802.
Dr. George W. Paige, April 22, 1802.
Dr. Uriah M. Gregory, September 15, 1802.
Dr. Benjamin Woodward, December 11, 1802.
Dr. Nicholas B. Harris, February 20, 1803.
Dr. Thaddeus Sweet, March 15, 1803.
Dr. Simon Newcomb, Jr., May 20, 1803.
Dr. Ira Gregory, June 8, 1803.
Dr. Thaddeus Waugh, June 8, 1803.
Dr. David Bliss, July 23, 1803.
Dr. Paul Maxson, November 23, 1803.
Dr. Abner Thurber, December 17, 1803.
Dr. Jared Hitcock, February 18, 1804.
Dr. John Ward, May 29, 1804.
Dr. Abel Hovey, June 21, 1804.
Dr. Moses Hale, July 12, 1804.
Dr. Hezekiah Eldridge, February 8, 1805.
Dr. Jeffrey W. Thomas, March 21, 1805.
Dr. Joshua Griggs, April 4, 1805.
Dr. Aaron J. Miller, April 4, 1805.
Dr. John Milton Stewart, April 15, 1805.
Dr. Augustus Burgoyne, April 25, 1805.
Dr. Daniel Beuns, June 5, 1805.
Dr. Ebenezer Stratton, November 2, 1805.
Dr. Rufus A. Burritt, April 21, 1806.
Dr. Jacob Kingsley, April 21, 1806.
Dr. Israel P. Baldwin, April 25, 1806.
Dr. Theodore May, July 21, 1806.
Dr. Jacob Burgess, Aug. 15, 1806.
Dr. Stephen Ingham, August 29, 1806.

THE FIRST METHODISTS OF TROY.

Followers of Wesley were at a very early date numbered among the inhabitants of the village of Troy. Stephen Andres, Caleb Curtis, Samuel Goodrich, Benjamin Betts, Archibald Gray and a number of other New England people were among the first congregations that gathered to hear the different itinerant preachers who visited Troy. About the year 1803, by removal, death and other causes, the first Methodist society was broken up. In 1805 the Rev. Elijah Chester revived the society, and enrolled seven persons in a class. At a meeting at the house of Samuel Scoby in November, 1805, David Canfield and Morris De Camp were chosen to

preside over a meeting held on the 1st of December. At this meeting David Canfield, Elihu King and Samuel Scoby were elected "trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church of the village of Troy." On the 25th of December two lots on State street, Nos. 743 and 744, were rented of Jacob D. Van der Heyden, on which in 1809 a frame building two stories in height was erected as a place of worship. This church had a few years thereafter a large membership.

RENSSELAER COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Pursuant to a notice given throughout the county, persons from the different towns assembled in the court house on the 11th day of July, 1815, for the purpose of organizing a county Bible society. After the meeting was organized an election was held for the first officers of the Rensselaer county Bible society, which resulted in the selection of the following persons:

President, the Rev. Jonas Coe; first vice president, the Rev. Ralph Westervelt; second vice president, the Rev. Samuel Blatchford; corresponding secretary, David Buel, jr.; recording secretary, the Rev. Francis Wayland; treasurer, Derick Lane; board of managers, the Rev. Parker Adams, the Rev. Tobias Spicer, the Rev. John Younglove, jr., the Rev. Justus Hull, Dr. Ely Burritt, the Hon. Josiah Masters, Jacob A. Fort, the Hon. Hosea Moffit and James L. Hodgeboom.

THE VILLAGE GROWS INTO A CITY.

By an act of the legislature, passed February 16, 1798, the freeholders and inhabitants were incorporated under the name of "the trustees of the village of Troy."

On the 2d of April, 1801, the provisions of the former act were somewhat altered. Another act of March 3, 1803, particularly described the west bounds of the village, carrying the southern limits "due west to the east bounds of Albany county, thence northwardly along the boundary line between the county of Albany and the county of Rensselaer to the southern bounds of the village of Lansingburgh."

By an act of the legislature passed April 4, 1806, the village was divided into four wards and four trustees were authorized to be elected to represent each of these wards. Under this act a president of the board was annually appointed by the governor of the state and the council of appointment. This act authorized the trustees to annually raise by tax the sum of \$1,500 to defray the expenses of the city, and also to support a night watch and to light the streets at night. Among the acts of the trustees of the village in 1806 was the making of appropriation of \$25 to have the names of the streets painted on small boards and placed on buildings, at the intersection of the streets.

The population of Troy in 1805 had increased to 2,255; in 1810 to 3,335, and in 1815 to 4,254.

On the 12th of April, 1816, a city charter was granted by the legislature incorporating "the mayor, recorder, aldermen and commonalty of the city of Troy." An election for charter officers of the city was held on Tuesday, May 14. At this election the following persons were elected aldermen:

Wards.	Aldermen.	Assistants.
First.....	George Allen.	Amos Salisbury.
Second.....	Hugh Peebles.	John Loudon.
Third.....	Townsend McCoun.	Gurdon Corning.
Fourth.....	Stephen Ross.	Henry Mallory.
Fifth.....	Samuel Hawley.	
Sixth.....	Phillip Hart, jr.	

The governor and council of appointment designated Albert Pawling mayor and William L. Marcy recorder.

RENSSELAER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

As early as the year 1818 the subject of organizing a county agricultural society engaged the attention of the farmers and other persons interested in the products of the soil. Early in the summer of 1819 a notice was inserted in the village newspapers that a meeting would be held on June 3, in the court house, to take into consideration the organization of such a society. On the day fixed, a respectable number of the leading men of the county interested in farming assembled and adopted a constitution and elected officers of the Rensselaer county agricultural society. The following persons were elected:

President, George Tibbits; first vice president, H. Knickerbacker; second vice president, Simon Newcomb, jr.; third vice president, Edmund C. Genet; treasurer, Philip Heartt; corresponding secretary, George R. Davis; recording secretary, Henry Hogle.

At a second meeting, July 14, 1819, the following board of managers were elected:

Troy—John P. Cushman, Hugh Peebles, Thomas Clowes, Thomas Turner, Stephen V. R. Schuyler, Stephen Ross.

Lansingburgh—Jacob C. Lansing, Wooster Brookins, Smith German.

Brunswick—Asa Garduer, Samuel I. McChesney, Martin Springer.

Schaghticoke—Bethel Mather.

Pittstown—Michael S. Van der Cook.

Hoosick—Moses Warren, John Carpenter, jr.

Petersburgh—Joseph Case.

Grafton—Ziba Hewitt.

Berlin—Barton Hammond.

Stephentown—Henry Platt.

Scottdale—William Carmichael.

Greenbush—John Breese.

Schoaduck—Cornelius L. Schermerhorn.

Nassau—Fenner Palmer.

The first fair was held on the common south of Hoosick street and east of River street, on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 12th and 13th, 1819. Each day was ushered in by the ringing of bells and the discharge of cannon. A procession was formed at the court house on the first day of the fair, at 9 o'clock, which marched to the grounds. As described by a Troy newspaper the fair was a great success. It says:

In the interior a very large collection of rival farmers had arrived on the ground and bro't with them the best cattle of the county—exhibiting the interesting spectacle of the finest oxen, cows, bulls, calves, sheep, swine, horses, colts with their dams, &c., engaging the curiosity and employing the observation of both practical men and amateurs. * * * At 4 o'clock P. M. the ploughing match took place, and for novelty and effect proved itself most interesting. The crowd, large as it was in the morning, had now increased to 3 or 4,000, occupying the adjacent eminences, and pressing in upon the ground designated for the interesting strife. * * * In 30 minutes the quick moving team of Mr. Filkin completed its quarter acre of unusually tough sward, amid the shouts of the spectators. A minute more brought in the cattle of Mr. Harrington, who received the premium, having turned up the sward either deeper and better than his swifter competitor. * * *

On the second day the society again formed at the flag-staff, accompanied by the clergy of the city and neighboring towns, under the direction of the Marshal Col. Knickerbacker, Assistant Marshal Gen. Carr, and escorted by the fine company from the United States arsenal, commanded by Lieuts. Morton and Walker, preceded by the excellent band. The procession moved down River and First streets to the Presbyterian meeting house, where had assembled a large audience of females from the city and country. The services at the church were commenced by an appropriate ode sung by the large choir under the direction of Mr. Hastings, in a style of unrivalled excellence. * * * The throne of grace was then addressed by the Rev. Dr. Coe in his peculiarly impressive and appropriate manner. A second ode was followed by a very able, instructive and interesting address from the president. * * *

The premiums which had been awarded by the committee were then announced, after some pertinent prefatory remarks by Elkanah Watson, Esq.

After the distribution of premiums an appropriate prayer by the Rev. Mr. Sommers concluded the services at the church.

The society then again formed and proceeded to Barney's hotel—where they partook of an excellent farmers' dinner.

The Rensselaer county agricultural society, after many years of usefulness, holding its annual fairs at different places in the immediate vicinity of Troy, at length became embarrassed,

which culminated in the sale of its grounds and buildings under foreclosure of mortgage, in October, 1874.

THE GREAT FIRE OF 1820.

The most calamitous event that befell the small city of Troy was a devastating fire, which occurred June 20, 1820. It originated in a barn in the rear of Col. Thomas Davis's house, No. 35, west side of First street. The wind was blowing from the south, and the fire spread rapidly northward. Fire engines from Lansingburgh, Waterford, the United States arsenal and from Albany came to aid in the suppression of the devouring flames. All the buildings on the west side of River street, north of Dr. Samuel Gale's store, in which was the post office, now the site of the drug and medical warehouse of J. L. Thompson, Sons & Co., were burned down as far north as the store of Corning & Co., now Fisk, Cowee & Co.'s, on the east side of River street; all the buildings from H. & G. Vail's store, opposite the post office, northward as far as the corner of River and First streets, where now is the Hall building, then southward along the west side of First street to the middle of the block between State and Congress streets. The total number of buildings burned was 69 stores and houses, about 12 stables, and outhouses, in all 93. The loss was estimated to be from \$700,000 to \$1,000,000.

From all parts of the state and neighboring states money and other contributions were with immediate liberality forwarded to the distressed people.

The 12th of July was observed in Troy by all the churches as a day of humiliation and prayer.

THE ERECTION OF NEW COUNTY BUILDINGS.

In 1821 action was taken by the common council of the city of Troy towards raising by tax money to pay the city's proportion of the expense of purchasing the necessary land and of erecting thereon buildings for the accommodation of the indigent, infirm and insane of the county. The board of supervisors January 19, 1822, made a report to the common council that the entire cost of the property purchased and the new buildings erected was \$9,064.84—Troy's proportion being \$4,647.94. The land purchased for this purpose embraced about 146 acres. The several buildings on it are known as the house of industry.

At a meeting of the common council, held May 17, 1825, a committee consisting of Ephraim Morgan, Thomas Clowes and Jeremiah Danby was appointed to confer with the board of supervisors in regard to the erection and selec-

tion of a site for a new jail. By agreement it was decided to erect the needed building on lot No. 435, on the northeast corner of Ferry and Fifth streets. When the building was completed, the old jail in the alley back of the court house was torn down and the prisoners removed to the new structure. By a resolution passed by the common council August 2, 1832, the old bell on the court house was ordered to be transferred to the cupola of the jail, to be used as a fire-alarm bell.

The old court house building not being sufficiently commodious for the purposes of the people of the county the board of supervisors, at a meeting held at William Pierce's inn, November 15, 1836, resolved to petition the state legislature for an act empowering it to raise sufficient moneys by tax for the erection and furnishing of a new building. The board also made an agreement with the common council of the city of Troy to provide certain rooms in the new court house for the use of the city of Troy. The new building was first occupied in 1831, the entire cost of the structure being about \$40,000. The city of Troy had what was designated as "the mayor's court room" and the "common council room" on the second floor of the building, and three rooms in the basement, assigned it by the board of supervisors. The style of the architecture of the court house building, it is said, is that of the temple of Theseus.

NEW WAYS OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION.

The project of connecting the waters of the western lakes with the Hudson by a canal was at a very early date looked upon with much favor by the enterprising people of Troy. Early in 1816 this card appeared in one of the weekly papers of the village:

CANAL.—The inhabitants of the village of Troy are requested to meet at the Court House on Saturday evening [February 24], at 6 o'clock, to take into consideration the propriety of memorializing the Legislature on the subject of the contemplated Western Canal.

At this meeting, which was largely attended by the enthusiastic citizens and which was presided over by the Hon. George Tibbits, a committee of four persons was appointed from each of the four wards to obtain signatures to a petition to the legislature setting forth the importance of the canal:

First ward—Albert Pawling, J. Sampson, I. M. Wells and Ephraim Morgan.

Second ward—Samuel Gale, J. Mallory, John P. Cushman and Hugh Peebles.

Third ward—Stephen Warren, Townsend McCoun, Francis Adancourt and Gurdon Corning.

Fourth ward—H. Arnold, J. Hannell, Stephen Ross and J. Reed.

When the "Great Canal Bill" was passed, George Tibbits, John D. Dickinson and Albert Pawling were appointed agents of the commissioners to secure donations, land and moneys to aid in the construction of the two public works—the Erie and the Champlain canals.

The steamboat *Fire-ly*, one of Robert Fulton's, commenced plying twice a day between Troy and Albany, in the fall of 1812. Immediately the steamboat monopoly on the Hudson was broken down by a decision of the supreme court in 1824, a number of the citizens applied to the legislature for an act incorporating "the Troy steamboat company." This company was chartered March 31, 1825. The persons first interested in its organization were John D. Dickinson, George Vail, Nathan Warren, Alsop Weed, Samuel Gale, Nathan Dauchy, Philip Hart, jr., Gurdon Grant, George Tibbits, John Paine, Townsend McCoun, James Van Brokle and Richard P. Hart.

On Saturday, March 12, 1825, Troy's first steamboat, the *Chief Justice Marshall*, made her first appearance at the steamboat landing.

The Citizens' steamboat company was organized in January, 1872. The articles of association were signed February 19, 1872. The City of Troy was built in 1876 and the *Saratoga* in 1877.

Previous to the construction of a railroad to Troy, stages were the means of public conveyance. In 1829 the Troy and Schenectady line of stages left Troy twice a day at 8 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M., and at the same hours Schenectady. The Troy and Boston stages every morning at 3 o'clock, Sundays excepted. The Troy and Albany line twice a day, 8 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M. The *Phoenix* line, Troy and Boston, via Williamstown and Greenfield, at 2 o'clock A. M. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The first railroad project which interested the people of Troy was the building of a road from Troy to Ballston. The act to incorporate the Rensselaer and Saratoga railroad company was passed April 14, 1832. The capital stock was fixed at 300,000 shares of \$100 each. The first officers were:

President, Richard P. Hart; directors, Ellsha Tibbits, George Griswold, John Cramer, John Knickerbacker, Richard P. Hart, Townsend McCoun, Nathan Warren, Stephen Warren, George Vail, LeGrand Cannon, Moses Williams, John P. Cushman and John Paine.

The railroad was completed October 6, 1835, and trains crossed the new bridge from Green Island to Troy for the first time that day. On the arrival of the cars at the west side of the river, horses were substituted for the engine,

and the cars were drawn over by them and down River street to the Troy house, the terminus of the road.

TROY'S SPIRIT OF COMPETITION.

A correspondent of a leading New York paper wrote as follows in 1835 regarding the competitive spirit of the Troy people :

There is something remarkable in the character of the people. No matter where they come from, or what have been their previous habits, the moment they become residents of this place, they are Trojans. They not only look well to their own individual interests, but imbibe the same spirit of enterprise which they find prevailing, and unite as one man in sustaining the interests and advancing the prosperity of Troy. * * * No sooner, for instance, had the steamboat monopoly been broken up by the supreme court, and Albany placed a line of steamboats on the river of her own, than Troy did the same. When a railroad brought the valley of the Mohawk within an hour's distance from Albany, Troy united herself with Vermont by the process of macadam. * * * At last, though not least, a railroad having in effect brought Ballston and Saratoga health springs within two hours of Albany, another railroad brings the same fountains within an hour and a half of Troy. * * * It was originally intended that the Troy road should run along the eastern margin of the Hudson, through Lansingburgh, crossing the river upon the old bridge at Waterford. Obstructions, however, of various kinds were thrown in the way of the company, and prices demanded for the use of the bridge—under the impression that the railroad must be carried across it and nowhere else, which induced the directors to change the route.

Trains on the Schenectady and Troy railroad began running between the two places in November, 1842.

The first through train from New York reached Troy December 19, 1851.

The formal opening of the Rutland and Washington railroad, and the Troy and Boston railroad from its junction at Eagle Bridge, was celebrated June 28, 1852.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF TROY'S MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

The immense manufacturing establishments of H. Burden & Sons, in which more than 1,400 men are employed, and who receive over \$500,000 annually in wages, had their beginning in 1840, at which time John Converse and several associates erected a rolling and slitting mill at the upper fall of the Wynant's kill. The mile of rails, which now annually send out \$2,000,000 of horseshoes, is a notable triumph to the enterprise and inventive genius of Henry Burden, who is famous as an inventor and machinist is world-wide.

The extensive works of the Albany and

Rensselaer iron and steel company, where steel rails of, the finest quality, merchant steel, horse shoes, etc., are manufactured in such large quantities as to astonish those who first hear of the thousands of tons produced annually, and at which over 2,000 men obtained work and are annually paid wages amounting to \$1,000,000, had their origin in a rolling mill erected in 1807 by John Brinckerhoof, on the north bank of the Wynant's kill, at its second fall.

The manufacture of collars, cuffs and shirts, which affords employment to more than 12,000 persons, who receive annually almost \$2,000,000 in wages, began in a very humble way in 1829. The sales of the productions of this one branch of manufacture exceed \$5,000,000 annually.

Stoves were first made in Troy about the year 1821 by the firm of Starbuck & Gurley. The fame which Troy stoves have secured throughout the United States is well known, and which has made the value of their annual production reach nearly to \$3,000,000. Besides these leading branches of manufacture the casting of church bells, car wheels, the making of fire-brick, paper, valves, car coaches, hosiery, machinery, surveying instruments, flour and other mentionable and useful articles, add to the welfare and wealth of the industrious people of Troy.

THE TROY YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

After several preliminary meetings which were largely attended by the people of Troy, the young men's association was organized December 19, 1834, by the election of John T. McCoun president. The first rooms occupied by the association, February, 1835, were on the second floor of the building No. 197 River street. On the completion of the Athenaeum building, on First street, the library was transferred to it. By an act of legislature, passed May 8, 1880, amending the act incorporating the association April 20, 1835, the control and management of the property of the association were placed in the hands of 23 trustees. The number of volumes in the library is about 23,325. Since December, 1870, De Witt Clinton has been the efficient librarian of the young men's association.

THE LARGE FIRE OF 1854.

The second large fire, which rendered three hundred families homeless, occurred on the afternoon of August 26, 1854. About 1 o'clock that day a brick playing mill on the southwest corner of Front and Division streets was discovered on fire, and although the fire companies of the city arrived early, the flames spread rapidly southward among the lumber piles in the adjoining yards. A strong northwest wind

was blowing, and the conflagration in a short time assumed such alarming proportions that fire engines from the neighboring places were solicited to aid in its suppression. Fire companies Nos. 1, 8 and 11 of Albany, with their apparatus, promptly responded, as did companies from West Troy, Cohoes, Waterford and Lansingburgh. The area of the fire included the blocks south of Division street and west of River street, as far as Liberty street. The fire then extended on the south side of Liberty street to First street, where it crossed to the east side about the middle of the block between Liberty and Washington streets, and thence southward, having its eastern margin along the east side of the alley, between First and Second streets, to Jefferson street. All the buildings westward to the river were consumed by the fire, which was not under control of the firemen until 6 o'clock in the evening. The day was extremely warm and the firemen labored under many disadvantages. About 30 acres of ground were burned over by this fire. The total loss was estimated at \$1,000,000.

The frame work of the steeple of St. John's Episcopal church, on the southeast corner of First and Liberty streets, during the progress of the conflagration was set on fire by a flying brand, but James Stantial, seeing the great danger the newly erected church was in, daringly climbed to the dizzy height, and with uncovered hands seized the flaming brand and threw it to the ground and then extinguished the fire spreading along the frame work. The sufferers by this fire were generously aided by the people of this and neighboring places in the time of their need and distress.

THE GREAT FIRE OF 1862.

A third fiery scourge visited the city on Saturday, May 10, 1862. The fearful and rapid ravages of this devastating conflagration appalled the stoutest hearts, desolating in the short space of six hours seventy-five acres of property and reducing to ashes five hundred and seven buildings. To aid in extinguishing this conflagration the firemen of Albany, West Troy, Cohoes, Waterford and Lansingburgh came with their engines and toiled with great efficiency in saving property exposed to the spreading flames and flying brands.

The fire had its beginning in the Rensselaer and Saratoga railroad bridge. This structure, it was supposed, was set on fire by a locomotive. The wind was from the northwest, and blowing a stiff gale, which carried burning cinders southeastwardly to the buildings adjacent

to the bridge. The irresistible fury of the flames and the dense smoke made it a most difficult task to suppress this extensive conflagration. During the progress of the fire several persons lost their lives in the flames. Thomas O'Donnell, an aged blind man, living on Green street, above Grand Division, was burned to death. Ransom S. Haight, while trying to escape from the path of the fire along Seventh street, was suffocated by the smoke and perished in the flames issuing from the neighboring dwellings. Mary Dunlop and child also lost their lives in a burning building. Dr. Zenas Cary died the following day from burns received while endeavoring to escape from the flames enveloping his residence.

Among the principal buildings consumed were the Second Presbyterian church, on the southeast corner of Sixth and Grand Division streets; the Scotch Presbyterian church, on the east side of Seventh street, between Broadway and State street; the North Baptist church, on the southeast corner of Fulton and Fifth streets; the Rensselaer polytechnic institute, on the north side of State street, between Sixth and Seventh streets; the Troy City bank, on the southeast corner of Grand Division and Fourth streets; the orphan asylum, on the south side of Federal street, opposite Harrison place; the church asylum, west of the orphan asylum, and the Union railroad depot. The total loss by this fire was estimated at \$3,000,000, with an insurance of \$1,000,000.

In a very short time the undaunted spirit of enterprise of the Troy people asserted its former power, and new buildings rapidly rose up over the desolated space of the great conflagration. In the month of July following the fire, 181 buildings were in course of erection. From all parts of the country came kind benefactions of sympathizing people, which were gratefully received by those suffering in basket and store from the impoverishing effects of this calamitous fire.

TROY'S PATRIOTISM IN THE WAR OF SECESSION.

In 1861 Troy reared its altars of loyalty on which brightly burned the fires of its patriotism until the surrender of Lee at Appomattox in 1865. On the evening of April 16, 1861, the first great war meeting was held in Harmony hall. The Hon. John A. Griswold was chosen chairman of the meeting. A committee was appointed, consisting of William E. Kisselburgh, Isaac McConihe, jr., and Robert A. Lottridge, which reported a series of patriotic resolutions, in which it was declared that Troy was ready to contribute a part of the means necessary to defend the government and to maintain the permanency of its institutions;

that a regiment of volunteers would at once be formed whose services would be offered to the executive of the state, to be transferred to the support of the federal government.

In consequence of the immense concourse of people assembled in and outside of the building, the meeting was adjourned to the Union depot, where addresses were made by Isaac McConihe, jr., Martin I. Townsend, George W. Demers, Clarence Buel, Gen. John E. Wool and others.

A second large meeting was held on April 18th, at Harmony hall, at which a committee of five was appointed to wait upon the common council and solicit the subscription of \$10,000 for the support of the families of volunteers. The common council at once complied with this request. The spirit of loyalty to the country's flag was everywhere apparent among the people. Union cockades and diminutive banners were buttoned and pinned to the hats and clothing of men, women and children; and in the churches, on Sundays, the services of the day were appropriately patriotic and filled with loyal aspirations for the preservation of liberty and law.

The first corps of volunteers which left Troy for the seat of war in 1861 was the second New York regiment, which departed from the city on the 18th of May. This fine body of soldiers was under the command of Col. Joseph B. Carr.

The need of more men to suppress the rebellion called into the field from Troy, on the 30th of August, 1862, the one hundred and twenty-fifth regiment. George L. Willard was the colonel of this noted regiment.

The one hundred and sixty-ninth regiment, the third contribution of Troy's patriotism, received its marching orders September 28, 1862. The command of this regiment was first held by Clarence Buel. It won a splendid record during the war.

TROY'S CHURCHES.

The date of the organization of the different religious societies of Troy and of the erection of the houses of worship is shown in the following table:

Name and date of organization.	First ch. built.	Present ch. built.
First Pres., Dec. 31, 1791.....	1792-3	1835-6
Second Pres., Sept. 25, 1827.....	1827	1864-5
Third Pres., Jan. 16, 1831.....	1831	1841
Second street Pres., Sept. 23, 1834.....	1834	1834
United Pres., Feb. 6, 1834.....	1836	1872
Liberty street Pres., Jan. 17, 1840.....	1834	1834
Park Pres., Aug. 24, 1851.....	1851	1854
Wood-side Pres., June 19, 1867.....	1869	1869
Oakwood avenue Pres., July 1, 1868.....	1868	1868

Ninth Pres., Sept. 30, 1869.....	1868	1868
Westminster Pres., Nov. 2, 1871.....	1870	1870
Memorial Pres., Oct. 18, 1872.....	1872	1878
First Baptist, Oct. 15, 1795.....	1805	1846
Second Baptist, Feb. 4, 1834.....	1823	1869
North Baptist, June 6, 1838.....	1844	1863
South Troy Baptist, March, 1838.....	1838	1873
Vall avenue Baptist, April, 1871.....	1873	1873
St. Paul's P. E., Jan. 16, 1801.....	1804-5	1875
St. John's P. E., 1830.....	1804-5	1874
Christ Church, P. E., Dec. 3, 1836.....	1838	1848
Church of Holy Cross, P. E., 1844.....	1848	1848
St. Luke's P. E., 1866.....	1860	1869
Free ch. of Ascen., P. E., Feb. 14, 1868.....	1870	1870
St. Paul's Free Chapel, P. E., Nov. 1869.....	1810	1869-71
State street M. E., Dec. 8, 1808.....	1835	1870
North Second street M. E., May, 1836.....	1835	1839
Levins's Chapel, M. E., 1838.....	1839	1870
Zion M. E., 1841.....	1841	1841
Third street M. E., 1843.....	1848	1848
Congress street M. E., 1847.....	1848	1848
Vall avenue M. E., April, 1854.....	1858	1858
Pawling avenue M. E., 1857.....	1857	1858
German M. E., July 25, 1857.....	1868	1874
St. Peter's Roman Catholic, 1824.....	1829	1849
St. Mary's Roman Catholic, 1844.....	1844	1844
St. Joseph's Roman Catholic, 1847.....	1852	1852
St. Jean Baptiste Roman Catholic, 1850.....	1869	1869
St. Francis, Roman Catholic, 1862.....	1863	1863
St. Lawrence, Roman Catholic, 1869.....	1870	1870
St. Michael's Roman Catholic, 1872.....	1872	1872
St. Patrick's R. Catholic, Jan. 1, 1872.....	1872	1872
Quaker society, Nov., 1803.....	1804	1804
Universalist church.....	1823	1875
Bethel church, 1821.....	1821	1821
First Congregational church.....	1837	1837
First Unitarian church, 1845.....	1845	1875
Church of Christ, 1865.....	1865	1865
Trinity, Lutheran, 1870.....	1875	1875
Berith Shalom, Jewish, 1890.....	1870	1870

TROY'S BANKS.

The following table shows the date of the incorporation of the different banking institutions of Troy:

Names.	Act of incorp.	Began business.
Farmers' bank.....	March 31, 1801.	Dec. 1, 1801.
Bank of Troy.....	March 22, 1811.	1811.
Troy Savings bank.....	April 23, 1823.	Aug. 30, 1823.
Merchants' and Merchants'.....	April 29, 1829.	1829.
*Troy City bank.....	April 19, 1833.	July 11, 1833.
Troy Exchange bank.....	Dec. 7, 1838.	1838.
Commercial bank of Troy.....	Aug., 1839.	1839.
Howard Trust and Banking Co.....	Feb. 1, 1839.	1839.
*Union bank of Troy.....	Jan., 1851.	April, 1851.
*State bank of Troy.....	1852.	Sept. 2, 1852.
*Mutual bank of Troy.....	Nov. 24, 1852.	Jan. 18, 1853.
*Central Bank of Troy.....	Dec., 1852.	Dec. 29, 1852.
*Manufacturers' bank.....	1852.	May, 1852.
Market bank.....	Jan., 1853.	Sept. 1853.
Troy Savings Co.....	June 29, 1854.	1854.
First National bank.....	Oct. 24, 1863.	Jan. 1, 1864.
†United National bank.....	March, 1865.	April 18, 1865.
National Exchange bank.....	1865.	From Market bank.

*Changed to national banks in 1865, except the Manufacturers' which became a national bank in 1864.
†Formed from Farmers' bank and Bank of Troy.

THE POPULATION OF TROY.

1795.....	459	1810.....	19,334
1800.....	1,892	1845.....	31,700
1810.....	2,351	1850.....	28,785
1820.....	3,395	1855.....	33,299
1830.....	4,254	1860.....	38,235
1840.....	5,234	1865.....	39,238
1850.....	7,839	1870.....	44,533
1860.....	11,551	1875.....	48,531
1870.....	16,039	1880.....	50,721

CHAPTER IV.

THE TOWN OF LANSINGBURGH.

THE ORIGINAL PATENT OF STONE ARABIA—THE OLD INDIAN DESIGNATIONS—A BIG FISH IN THE RIVER—DE NIEUW STADT ON THE UPPER HUDSON—THE FIRST SETTLERS OF LANSINGBURGH—NO SLAVISH SUBMISSION TO GREAT BRITAIN—COMMODORE MACDONOUGH PRESENTED WITH PLATE—LANSINGBURGH IN 1824 AND 1836—SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF ITS CHURCHES—MANUFACTURING INTERESTS—CENSUS OF THE TOWN FROM 1770.

The old, original, parchment patents relating to the possession of landed estate by the first settlers of the province of New York are quite impressive in the manner in which they are worded. These documents translate us to a period when the people living in this part of the continent of America were loyal subjects of English kings, whose favor was sought through deputies to give the necessary legal confirmation to the patents by which they acquired ownership of tracts of land once possessed by the Indians. The patent of Steene Arabia,—the first name given by the Dutch to a part of the territory now included in the present bounds of the town of Lansingburgh,—is a large parchment manuscript, to which, by a red and blue cord, a large disk of figured wax, the royal seal, preserved in a silver box, is attached.

TASCAMCATICK.

The grand, monarchical phraseology with which the instrument is worded is rather peculiar to our democratic ears :

Thomas Dongan, lieutenant-governor and vice-admiral of New York and its dependencies under his majesty, James the Second, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, &c., supreme lord and proprietor of the colony and province of New York and its dependencies in America, &c., to all whom these presents shall come, sendeth greeting : * * * Whereas, Francis Lovelace, Esq., one of the gentlemen of his majesty's honorable privy chamber and late governor of the province as aforesaid, did by patent under his hand and sealed with the seal of the province, bearing date the

first day of September, 1670, did give, grant, ratify and confirm unto Robert Saunders of Albany a certain tract or parcel of land called by the Indians Tascamcatick, lying on the east side of the North river, and stretching alongst the said river from the second to the third spring which runne over to the west side of the river, striking into the woods up to the high hills and including within it a piece of the * * * ground or hog valley ; * * the said Robert Saunders, his heirs and assigns, * * paying as a quit rent for the same, yearly and every year, two bushels of winter wheat, if demanded unto his royal highness.

PASSQUASSICK.

And whereas Sir Edmund Andross, late governor of this province, as aforesaid, did likewise by patent under his hand and sealed with the seal of the the province, bearing date, 23d March, 1679 and '80, did give, grant unto the said Robert Saunders of Albany, a certain parcel or piece of woodland lying on the east side of the North river, above Albany, to the south of the said land above recited, called by the Indians Passquassick, as also a small island, near thereunto, commonly known by the name of the whale fishing island, containing in breadth to the north, one hundred, seventy rod, and to the south one hundred rod, in length four hundred and ninety rod, amounting in all to one hundred and one quarter of a morgan or about two hundred twenty acres and a half, * * the said Robert Saunders, * * paying therefor yearly and every year unto his majesty's highness as a quit rent, one bushel of good winter wheat, &c.

From the above tract there was excepted "a certain piece of woodland, which he, the said Robert Saunders, did sell and alienate to Peter Van Woggelum, lying to the southward of

Piskawen kill, which creek or kill separates and makes the bounds between the above recited land, and what was sold unto the said Peter Van Woggelum as by Robert Saunder's deed under hand bearing date the 19th September, 1681."

PAENSICK.

The patent which also transfers this property of Robert Saunders to Johannes Wendell, a farmer, of Albany county, further recites that the said Johannes Wendell did by Governor Dongan's license "purchase of the native Indians another piece of woodland adjoining to the northernmost part of the several tracts of land above recited and stretches along the river side, northward to a certain kill or creek called by the Indians Paensick, over against Jan Van Wessel's land, that lies in the Half-moon, and from the said creek unto the woods as far as the high hills, and from thence southward to the bounds of the lands above said."

The above patent, which conveyed the property of Robert Saunders to Johannes Wendell, was signed by Gov. Thomas Dongan, July 22, 1686, and afterwards confirmed May 28, 1755, by Gov. James De Lancey.

WALVISCH EYLANT.

Whale island, or as the Dutch called it, *Walvisch eylant*, purchased by Robert Saunders, has, by the building of the state dam, been submerged by the higher waters of the Hudson. The story as related by Van der Donck, in his description of New Netherland, runs as follows: The winter of 1646-7 was extremely cold, and the river closed November the 25th and remained so for four months thereafter. In the month of March a great freshet occurred, "by which the water of the river became nearly fresh to the bay, when at ordinary seasons the salt flows up from 20 to 24 miles [a Dutch mile is about three English miles] from the sea. At this season two whales of common size swam up the river 40 miles, from which place one of them returned and stranded about 12 miles from the sea, near which four others stranded the same year. The other ran further up the river and grounded near the great Cha-hoos falls, about 43 miles from the sea. This fish was tolerably fat, for, although the citizens of Rensselaerwyck broiled out a great quantity of train oil, still the whole river, (the current being still rapid) was oily for three weeks, and covered with grease. As the fish lay rotting, the air was infected with its stench to such a degree that the smell was offensive and perceptible for two miles leeward. For what purpose those whales ascended the river so far, it being at the

time about 40 miles from all salt or brackish water, it is difficult to say, unless their great desire for fish, which were plenty at this season, led them onward."

The citizens of Rensselaerwyck, of whom Van der Donk speaks, did not live in the immediate vicinity of Whale island, for at the early date mentioned, the land at the confluence of the Mohawk and Hudson rivers was still unoccupied by settlers.

THE PURCHASE OF ABRAHAM JACOB LANSING.

The conveyance of the territory embraced in the Stone Arabia patent, by Robert Wendell, jr., heir of Johannes Wendell, to Abraham Jacob Lansing, begins with these words: "This indenture made and concluded the 21 day of June in the 3 year of the reign of King George the third & of our Lord 1763, between Robert Wendell of Steene Arabia, in the county of Albany, in the province of New York, yeoman of the one part, and Abraham Jacob Lansingh of the same place, gentleman, of the other part." The price paid for the land was "the sum of three hundred pounds currency money." From the above tract was excepted a part which had been sold previously to Simon Van Antwerpe, but which was then owned by William Rogers.

The name Steene Arabia, or Stone Arabia, given to this land was bestowed most likely on account of the great quantity of coarse gravel and water-worn stones which were thickly embedded by deposition in its surface soil. It was perhaps, this peculiar condition of the land that induced Abraham Jacob Lansing to have a part of it surveyed and laid out into building lots in 1771.

NEW CITY.

The map of this survey is to be seen in the Albany county clerk's office. A description of the city of Lansingburgh is engrossed upon it, as follows:

This map describeth a tract of land lying on the east side of Hudson's river, about eight miles above the city of Albany, and is layed out in a regular square for the erecting of a city by the name of Lansingburgh; the lots are one hundred and twenty feet long and fifty wide. The streets are seventy feet wide, and the alleys 20 feet wide; the oblong square (the Green or Park) in the center is reserved for publick uses. Laid down by a scale of ninety feet to an inch. June 7, 1771. Joseph Blanchard, surveyor, May 11, 1771. A. Jacob Lansing.

Undoubtedly the purpose of Abraham Jacob Lansing in thus dividing up his estate, eight years after purchasing it, was of a speculative character. His shrewd discernment was well rewarded when the tide of emigration from the

New England provinces set towards it, and made the newly laid out city a notable place of trade and commerce at the head of navigation. The Dutch name, *de Nieuw Stadt*, the New City, in contradistinction to *de Oude Stadt*, the Old City, as Albany was called, was, either in its Dutch or English form, the most common term by which Lansingburgh was at first known.

THE NAME OF ITS FIRST SETTLERS.

The growth of Lansingburgh is in part marked by the sale of the lots exhibited on the old map. The limits of the new city were North, East and South streets, and on the west, the river. The names of the first settlers, and the time of their purchase of lots, are given in the following list:

Name and time of purchase.	No. of lot or lots.
Robert Yates, March 7, 1770.....	6
John Dunbar, March 9, 1770.....	81, 82, 152
Benj. French, March 20, 1770.....	17, 18
Elinoir Taylor, May 25, 1770.....	1, 2
Jacob A. Lansing, Oct. 7, 1770.....	13, 212
Ab'm Blau, Oct. 25, 1770.....	3, 211
Isaac Lansing, Oct. 26, 1770.....	3, 65
Jonathan Wickwire, Dec. 9, 1770.....	81
Samuel Halstead, Dec. 10, 1770.....	102
John Barber, Jan. 20, 1771.....	240
Anne Hamersley, March 30, 1771.....	225, 233
Flores Bancker, June 8, 1771.....	169 to 183, 185, 186, 187, to 192, and water lot 25.
Charles Meal, June 8, 1771.....	11
Anthony Rutgers, June 8, 1771.....	105, 129
Evert Bancker, June 11, 1771.....	113
Peter Curtinus, June 11, 1771.....	8
Alex. McClean, June 18, 1771.....	7, 257
Waldron Blau, June 18, 1771.....	3, 184
Jonathan Brewer, Aug. 24, 1771.....	66, 212
Eldart Funda, Dec. 3, 1771.....	50
John D. Funda, Dec. 27, 1771.....	97 to 99
Mayekie McCoy, Dec. 27, 1771.....	213
Isaac H. Lansing, Dec. 30, 1771.....	27, 51
Ab'm K. Van Vleet, Jan. 31, 1772.....	21, 22, 23, 46, with water lots 21 to 23
Jonathan Severs, Feb. 22, 1772.....	209, 210
Charles Reed, Feb. 23, 1772.....	23, 230
Francis Lansing, April 21, 1772.....	14, 15 of 15, 261
Hendrick Lansing, April 24, 1772.....	16
James Abeel, June 20, 1772.....	3, 153, 154
Ab'm Brinkerhoof, June 22, 1772.....	159, 160
Ab'm Nilson, July 21, 1772.....	203, 204
Thomas Hunt, July 22, 1772.....	60
Cornelius S. Sebring, July 22, 1772.....	80
James Van Varick, July 22, 1772.....	80
John D. Witt, July 22, 1772.....	237
Barnet De Clyn, July 23, 1772.....	12
James Moran, Nov. 13, 1772.....	59
Volkart Dawson, Feb. 3, 1772.....	205
Ignis Klipp, July 10, 1772.....	206
Gerrit and Catherine Van Wle, Aug. 27, 1772.....	130, 131
Ralph Watson, Sept. 14, 1772.....	88
Joseph Norris, Oct. 22, 1772.....	88
John Skiffington, April 7, 1774.....	127
Patrick Smith, June 3, 1774.....	19
John Tillman, Aug. 8, 1774.....	56
Margret Tillman, Aug. 8, 1774.....	53
Amos Graves, Nov. 25, 1774.....	28, 39
Peter Weaver, Dec. 9, 1774.....	79, 80
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Franciscus Luning, April 27, 1775.....	25, 26, 44, 45
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Moses Holt, Sept. 20, 1776.....	24
William Nichols, Feb. 5, 1777.....	53
Patrick McNiff, Feb. 8, 1777.....	32
William McGill, April 9, 1777.....	32
William Conklin, June 28, 1777.....	9, 10
James Thompson, April 15, 1778.....	68
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John Pugh, Oct. 27, 1780.....	41, 42
Cornelius Cooper, Oct. 30, 1780.....	71, 72
Ezra Hitchcock, June 16, 1783.....	40
Joy Chambers, March 10, 1784.....	43
Hoogland and Seymour, March 7, 1785.....	47, 48
Thomas Knight, April 28, 1785.....	49
John Van Cortland, Nov. 1, 1785.....	85, 86

Platt and Williams, April 24, 1786.....	Water lot 17
Marla Rosa, March 7, 1786.....	20
John Van Rensselaer, June 1, 1786.....	Water lot 16
Caleb Carr, June 10, 1786.....	37
Aaron Ward, July 17, 1786.....	37
Benjamin Snyder, July 28, 1786.....	375
Cornelius Vandeburgh, Sept. 10, 1786.....	193, 194
Agnes Murry, Sept. 23, 1786.....	69
Nathaniel Jacobs, Nov. 15, 1787.....	Water lot 18
Ebenezer Conley, March 11, 1788.....	19
James Boez, Jr., Nov. 18, 1788.....	231, 232
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William Adams, no date.....	101
Joshua Burnham, no date.....	61
James Caldwell, no date.....	20, 30
Jeremiah Constock, no date.....	81
Peter Hogle, no date.....	168
Hugh McCarty, no date.....	116
James McMurry, no date.....	70
Aaron Noble, no date.....	62
School lots, no date.....	108, 109, 132, 137
William Scott, no date.....	134, 135, 136
Smith and Whitney, no date.....	90
Barn Ten Eyck, no date.....	110
Hendrick Van Arnam, no date.....	76
Frederick Weaver, no date.....	53, 54
Jonathan Wood, no date.....	54
Peter W. Yates, no date.....	34, 52, 104

THE TOWN AND BOROUGH OF STONE ARABIA.

The local government of the town and borough of Stone Arabia was in 1771 vested in a committee of five persons, chosen by the inhabitants and freeholders yearly. The other officers elected annually were a moderator, a town clerk, a pathmaster and three fence-viewers.

The first officers of the town and borough in 1771 were:

Moderator, Ebenezer Marvin; clerk, Thomas S. Diamond; committee, Abraham Jacob Lansing, Isaac Bogart, John Barber, Ebenezer Marvin and Benjamin French; pathmaster, Abraham Wendell; fence viewers, Robert Wendell, Levinus Lansing and Isaac Van Arnum.

The records of these town meetings contribute the following names to the list of the inhabitants of Stone Arabia at this early period:

1772—William Spotten, William Pemberton, Ralph Watson, Joshua Austin, Josiah Rose, Abraham Stephens, Nathaniel Oaks, John Walker, Archibald Campbell, Aldah Funda, Anthony Van Schaick.

1773—Roger Noble, John Breezing, Stephen Marvin, William Carr, James Wilson, Benjamin Evans, Joseph Joy, Obediah Benthous.

1774—David Callinder, Christopher Tillman, John D. Wynkoop, Cornelius Lansing, Michael Housewirth, John Follett, Daniel Toneray, John Clark, Adonijah Starubourgh, Cornelius Noble, Frederick Weaver.

1777—James Williams.

1784—Albert Pawling, Jeremiah Hoogland.

1785—John Van Rensselaer, Horace Seymour, Sidney Berry, Samuel Cogswell.

A PATRIOTIC PLEDGE.

The news of the battle of Lexington, fought on the 19th of April, 1775, when heard by the people of Lansingburgh, awakened all their pride and love of country. They felt the necessity of defending themselves against the ag-

gressions of the British soldiery. They held meetings and discussed the questions affecting the interests of the people. They pledged one another in an agreement which is remarkable for its patriotic fervor and loyal sentiments. It was as follows :

LANSINGBURGH, May 22, 1775.—A general association agreed to and subscribed by the freemen, freeholders and inhabitants of the town of Lansingburgh and patent of Stone Arabia :

Persuaded that the salvation of the rights and liberties of America depends, under God, on the firm union of its inhabitants in a vigorous prosecution of the measures necessary for its safety,—convinced of the necessity of preventing the anarchy and confusion which attend a dissolution of the power of government, we, the freemen, freeholders and inhabitants of the town of Lansingburgh and patent of Stone Arabia, being greatly alarmed at the avowed design of the British ministry to raise a revenue in America, and shocked by the bloody scenes now enacting in Massachusetts bay government, in the most solemn manner,

Resolved, Never to become slaves, and do associate ourselves under all the ties of religion, honor and love to our country, to adopt and to endeavor to carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the continental congress, or resolved by our provincial convention, for the purpose of preserving our constitution, and opposing the execution of the several arbitrary and oppressive acts of the British parliament, until a reconciliation between Great Britain and America, on constitutional principles can be obtained, than which we wish for nothing more ardently, and we do hereby covenant, promise and agree that we will in all things follow the advice of our general committee respecting the purpose aforesaid, the preservation of peace, good order and safety of the individuals and private property.

Abraham Jacob Lansingh, Christopher Tillman, John D. Wynkoop, Daniel Toneray, Jonathan Severs, Henry Pollock, Michael Housewirt, John Fine, Stephen Marvin, James Boggs, Abraham Ouderkirk, Ephraim Griswold, Samuel Higgins, James Willson, Justus Brown, John Clark, David Layton, Francis Hogle, John Sloan, Gerry Lane, Samuel Burns, Isaac Van Arnum, Robert Wendell, Pennell Brown, Frederick Weaver, Levinus Lansingh, William Thompkins, Joseph Bacon, John Dunbar, Peletiah Winchell, John Young, Levinus Laverse, Gershom French, Joseph Jones, John Skiffington, Thomas Cook, William Nicholls, Alexander Boyd, John Winn, Josiah Rose, Daniel Shaw, Aaron Ward, William Conkling, Edward Bruster, Samuel Bruster, Jacob A. Lansingh.

A line copy of the original association paper, drawn this 15th day of June, 1775.

CHR. TILLMAN, Town Clerk.

SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Lansingburgh, in the dark hours of the revolutionary war, sent forth, from their new homes, bands of patriotic men, who with willing hearts

defended, while connected with the army of the North, the frontier towns on the upper Hudson, from the invading army under Burgoyne. Under Gens. Schuyler and Gates they won honorable mention. The following muster and pay-rolls exhibit the names of the officers and privates of two Lansingburgh companies doing service as militia men of Albany county in 1777 :

A roll of the Lansingburgh company of Col. Stephen I. Schuyler's militia, Feb. 17, 1777 :

Christopher Tillman, captain.

Abraham Ten Eyck, Jonathan Severs, lieutenants.

John Clark, ensign.

Daniel Toneray, Aaron Ward, William Conkling, Jonathan Douglass, sergeants.

William Willoughby, James Barber, James Sloan, Stephen Marvin, Jr., corporals.

George Lane, Abraham J. Ouderkirk, Henry Van Arnum, Robert Thompson, Samuel Burns, Levinus Lansingh, William Thompkins, Samuel Bennett, Michael Housewirt, Comfort Shaw, George Mastin, Robert Armstrong, Conrad Hentlebecker, John Dunbar, Robert Dunbar, John Hogg, Peletiah Winchell, Henry Campbell, Benjamin Bruster, Samuel Bruster, John Young, Levinus Laverse, Solomon Goewy, Francis Hogle, Isaac Van Arnum, Thomas Martin, Ephraim Griswold, Jabez Griswold, William Carr, John Wool, Christopher Panser, John Barber, Job Paddock, William Spotton, Nicholas Fisher, Justus Brown, James Perkins, Joseph Perkins, John Walker, George Van Vleck, George Boyd, Leonard Miller, William Boyd, John Follet, Phineas Bacon, William Douglass, privates.

Pay-roll of Capt. Cornelius Noble's company in Stephen I. Schuyler's regiment of Albany militia, to August 11th, 1777 :

Cornelius Noble, captain.

Samuel Shaw, John Clarke, lieutenants.

John Byly, ensign.

Hugh McManus, William Greenfield, Samuel Lape, Hezekiah Hull, William Norton, sergeants.

James Barber, Stephen Marvin, Samuel Frazer, John S. Fine, corporals.

Emanuel Hennecke, drummer.

Hercules Kronekhyte, Abraham Kronekhyte, William Crannell, Hendrick Strunck, Jacob Fellow, William Cooper, John Van Ostrander, Hendrick Ploss, Jr., Jacob Smith, William Morris, John Hannah, Isaac Crannell, Samuel Evans, Job Paddock, William Willoughby, John Paget, Matthew Marvin, Andrew Colehammer, Daniel Groyberger, John Van der Warken, Ephraim Griswold, David Randel, Joseph Dody, Bethmel Greenfield, Solomon Griffiths, Stephen Millard, Joshua Randal, Stephen Randal, Reuben Bomps, Ephraim Jackson, Israel Brooks, Jacob Van Every, Philip Haner, Joseph Benson, Eleazer Hill, Andreas Barott, Ebenezer Baker, Francis Hogle, John Frazer, John Garner, Folket Miller, Peter Minich, Andreas Parker, Caspals, Valentine, Jost Harwick, John Watter, Frederick Conrad, John Craver, Garrit Peck.

Ruelf Ostrum, John Lansing, Thomas Martin, John Kelly, Solomon Battler, Hendrick Ploss, Peter Coons, Isalah Durham, privates.

THE OLD LANDMARKS.

The sites of several of the homesteads of the earlier settlers of Stone Arabia are marked on the map of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, made by Jno. R. Bleeker in 1767. The north line of the manor, north 88° east, is placed north of the fourth branch of the Mohawk river, about where is now the Union bridge between Waterford and Lansingburgh. On Sauthier's map of the province of New York, 1779, the inclosing boundary lines of the patent of Stone Arabia are south of this line. A map of Rensselaerwyck, drawn by Robert Yates, alderman of the city of Albany, who made a survey of the manor lines in 1773, assisted by Gerardus Lansing, a baker of Albany, and Nicholas Marselius, a silversmith of the same city, as chainman, the north line of the manor is located south of the second branch of the Mohawk river. This line, instead of being the north line of the manor, was most likely the south line of the patent of Stone Arabia. This inference is well supported by the lines given by Sauthier. Bleeker and Yates agree in the location of the points. On the latter's map appears a small stream north of Lansingburgh, named Koele Killitie, south of this creek Iser Berg creek, south of it Iser Berg, then the fourth spruyt of the Mohawk, then the third spruyt, then Stone Arabia, or Lansingburgh, opposite of which is an island, on which is the name of Anthony Van Schaick, then Whale Fish island, then the middle or second spruyt, on the south line of which, extended to the east side of the river, is the house of William Rogers, then a long line, erroneously drawn as the north boundary of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, which is described as "a line north 70° west as the needle pointed, 1737, from the present northwest corner of Massachusetts bay to Hudson's river, 21 miles, 21 chains, 75 links." This line appears to be about 1,500 feet north of the Piscawken kill. The residence of Abraham Jacob Lansing is still to be seen on the east side of State street, No. 405, north of the oil cloth manufactory of Deborah Powers & Sons. The three sons of Jacob A. Lansing were Jacob A. Lansing, who died February 25, 1801; Cornelius Lansing, who died April 23, 1842, and Levinus Lansing, who died in 1837. Cornelius Lansing's residence was what is now known as the Abbey property; and that of Levinus Lansing, where now is the home of David Judson, No. 3 Grove street. Jacob C.

Lansing, the son of Cornelius Lansing, and father of Charles J. Lansing, Esq., died July 10, 1852.

THE GROWTH OF THE NEW CITY.

In 1788 Elkanah Watson, while making a tour through New York, visited New City and wrote as follows concerning it: "I spent a day in examining this locality, [Vanderheyden, the site of Troy,] and then walked on the banks of the Hudson, a distance of three miles to New City, where I continued several days. This place is thronged by mercantile emigrants, principally from New England, who have enjoyed a very extensive and lucrative trade, supplying Vermont and the region of both banks of the Hudson, as far as Lake George, with merchandise; and receiving in payment wheat, pot and pearl ashes and lumber."

Elkanah Watson was at this early date inspecting the country and examining the river for the purpose of ascertaining the cost of a canal to the west. Alluding to this project, he further writes:

In the view of ascending by locks from the Hudson into the Mohawk river, it appears to me that the obstacles at this place [Cohoes falls] will be much greater than to cut a canal across the pine plains, into a grand basin, back of Albany. I took passage in a batteau at New City to Albany, for the purpose of sounding the river. The result of my examination satisfied me that in ordinary tides five or six feet may be carried to within a mile of New City, and from thence to that town 15 or 18 inches.

Respecting the navigableness of the river to New City, the following paragraphs from the *American Spy*, March 8, 1793, published in Lansingburgh, show the size of the vessels which ascended the river to that height:

The sloop Arabia, of 90 tons burden, arrived at this place yesterday and is now loading for New York.

It is of great importance to the business of the place that vessels of 80 or 90 tons can generally load at our docks through the spring season, at which time the most of the produce of the country is shipped off; and it is contemplated that the same advantage will continue through the whole season after the present year, as dams are to be erected next summer to give a sufficient depth of water up to this town to navigate vessels of 40 and 50 tons burthen.

Previous to the establishment of a postoffice at Lansingburgh letters were transmitted to the postoffice at Albany by post-riders or stage-drivers. Ananias Platt, to whom had been granted in 1789 by the state legislature the exclusive right to run a line of stages between Lansingburgh and Albany, advertised in the *Federal Herald* that "the public will please take

notice that fourpence will be required, as postage, for each letter which may be conveyed by the stage from Lansingburgh to Albany, or from Albany to Lansingburgh. Those who wish to have their letters conveyed by the year, will make their arrangements with A. Platt."

In April, 1791, Stephen Gorham was appointed deputy postmaster for Lansingburgh, but a postoffice was not established in the place until June, 1792.

The increase of travel between Lansingburgh and the neighboring places was thus spoken of in 1796:

A few years ago there was but one stage between this town and Albany. It was established and maintained at great expense by A. Platt, and for a considerable time had little encouragement. He, however, persevered, and at this day, this mode of traveling has so increased, that 20 stages pass and repass daily between the neighboring towns of Lansingburgh, Troy, Waterford and Albany, averaging more than 150 passengers per day, a proof of our growth and prosperity.

LANSINGBURGH INCORPORATED.

The preamble to the act under which the first trustees of Lansingburgh were appointed passed April 5, 1790, begins with a historical statement that "whereas, in that part of the town of Rensselaerwyck, in the county of Albany, hereinafter described, a considerable number of houses are already erected and occupied by merchants, mechanics and others, to the advancement of commerce and manufactures in the state; and in order to enable them to regulate their internal police and secure the benefits of certain commonable lands lying within the same, have prayed that they might be enabled to appoint trustees."

It was then enacted that John Van Rensselaer, Christopher Tilliman, Elijah Janes, Aaron Ward, Stephen Gorham, Ezra Hickok and Levinus Lansing should "be the first trustees for the freeholders and inhabitants of that part of the town of Rensselaerwyck commonly called Lansingburgh."

The powers conferred upon the freeholders and inhabitants at their annual town meetings, made it their duty to direct the use and management of their common lands, and respecting the cutting of the wood on the same; to establish prudential rules relative to the cleaning and keeping in order and repair the common streets and highways of Lansingburgh; to compel the housekeepers of Lansingburgh to furnish themselves with a sufficient number of proper fire-buckets, and with necessary tools and implements for extinguishing fires.

The trustees appointed by the act were to act as inspectors of election; the first one to be

held on the third Tuesday of May, 1790, at which time "seven discreet inhabitants, being freeholders," were to be elected "by a majority of voices," to hold office for one year; and annually thereafter, the same number was to be elected.

Since that time the following persons have filled the offices of president, clerk and treasurer:

1790, President, Abraham J. Lansing; clerk, John D. Dickinson; treasurer, Aaron Lane.
 1791, President, Abraham J. Lansing; clerk, John D. Dickinson; treasurer, Aaron Lane.
 1792, President, Levinus Lansing; clerk, John D. Dickinson; treasurer, Aaron Lane.
 1793, President, Aaron Lane; clerk, John D. Dickinson; treasurer, William Bell.
 1794, President, John Van Rensselaer; clerk, John D. Dickinson; treasurer, William Bell.
 1795, President, James Hickok; clerk, Joseph Alexander; treasurer, Joseph Alexander.
 1796, President, James Hickok; clerk, Joseph Alexander; treasurer, William Bell.
 1797, President, James Hickok; clerk, Joseph Alexander; treasurer, William Bell.
 1798, President, James Hickok.
 1799, President, Elijah Janes; clerk, Joseph Alexander; treasurer, Charles Selden.
 1800, President, Elijah Janes; clerk, Joseph Alexander; treasurer, Charles Selden.
 1801-5, President, John D. Dickinson; clerk, Joseph Alexander; treasurer, Charles Selden.
 1806-8, President, David Allen; clerk, Charles Selden; treasurer, E. W. Walbridge.
 1809, President, E. W. Walbridge; clerk, James Dougrey; treasurer, E. W. Walbridge.
 1811-31.—Records lost.
 1832-3, President, John M. Caswell; clerk, Marcus L. Filley; treasurer, Horace Janes.
 1834, President, John M. Caswell; clerk, Marcus L. Filley; treasurer, Jabez F. Parmelee.
 1835, President, Wm. McMurray; clerk, Marcus L. Filley; treasurer, Jabez F. Parmelee.
 1836, President, John M. Caswell; clerk, Richard McDonald; treasurer, Jabez F. Parmelee.
 1837, President, John M. Caswell; clerk, M. L. Filley; treasurer, Jabez F. Parmelee.
 1838, President, E. W. Walbridge; clerk, R. McDonald; treasurer, Jabez F. Parmelee.
 1839, President, Nicholas Weaver; clerk, Cornelius L. Tracy; treasurer, Gerrit Fort.
 1840, President, John B. Chipman; clerk, Richard McDonald; treasurer, Gerrit Fort.
 1841, President, Nicholas Weaver; clerk, Richard McDonald; treasurer, Gerrit Fort.
 1842, President, John B. Chipman; clerk, Stephen S. Hunt; treasurer, Gerrit Fort.
 1843, President, John S. Fake; clerk, Walter Chipman; treasurer, Gerrit Fort.
 1844, President, John S. Fake; clerk, Stephen S. Hunt; treasurer, Gerrit Fort.
 1845-6, President, John S. Fake; clerk, Charles C. Parmelee; treasurer, Gerrit Fort.
 1847, President, John C. Filkin; clerk, Charles C. Parmelee; treasurer, B. G. Hathaway.
 1848, President, John B. Chipman; clerk, Isaac Ransom; treasurer, B. G. Hathaway.
 1849, President, John G. McMurray; clerk, J. F. Knickerbocker; treasurer, Charles Hitecock.
 1850, President, John E. Whipple; clerk, J. F. Knickerbocker; treasurer, Charles Hitecock.
 1851, President, Bailey G. Hathaway; clerk, Isaac Ransom; treasurer, John Mains.
 1852, President, John G. McMurray; clerk, Hiram Bleckman; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1853, President, Henry A. Merceer; clerk, B. G. Hathaway; treasurer, Stephen Heimstreet.
 1854, President, Joseph Fox; clerk, B. G. Hathaway.
 1855, President, F. B. Leonard; clerk, B. G. Hathaway.

1842, President, John G. McMurray; clerk, William J. Lamb; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1843, President, Thomas Curran; clerk, James D. Witbeck; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1844, President, Henry A. Mercer; clerk, Daniel King; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1845, President, B. G. Hathaway; clerk, Daniel King; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1846, President, Charles Clark; clerk, Daniel King; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1847, President, J. E. Whipple; clerk, Daniel King; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1848, President, Robert Dickson; clerk, Daniel King; treasurer, Patrick Fitzgerald.
 1849, President, Robert Dickson; clerk, Daniel King; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1850, President, Edward P. Pickett; clerk, Daniel King; treasurer, Edwin Adams.
 1851-5, President, Robert Dickson; clerk, Louis Ransom; treasurer, M. L. Fancher.
 1856, President, William Allen; clerk, John W. Gaston; treasurer, B. G. Hathaway.
 1857, President, William Allen; clerk, John Higgins; treasurer, Ed. P. Pickett.
 1858, President, Seth P. Welch; clerk, S. B. Kirkpatrick; treasurer, Edwin Adams.
 1859-61, President, Seth P. Welch; clerk, John M. Chambers; treasurer, Edwin Adams.
 1862, President, Seth P. Welch; clerk, John R. Burke; treasurer, Edwin Adams.
 1863, President, Robert Dickson; clerk, Milo Thompson; treasurer, Edwin Adams.
 1864-5, President, Robert Dickson; clerk, C. W. Witbeck; treasurer, Thos. Rourke.
 1866, President, James McQuide; clerk, C. W. Witbeck; treasurer, Thos. Rourke.
 1867, President, Chas. H. Dauchy; clerk, John Quinn; treasurer, Thos. Rourke.
 1868, President, Chas. H. Dauchy; clerk, C. W. Witbeck; treasurer, Thos. Rourke.
 1869, President, Frederick E. Draper; clerk, C. W. Witbeck; treasurer, J. E. West.
 1870, President, Frederick E. Draper; clerk, C. W. Witbeck; treasurer, J. E. West.

THE DUTIES OF ASSESSORS LAST CENTURY.

Under the act providing for the valuation of lands and dwelling houses, and the enumeration of slaves, within the United States, Ephraim Morgan was appointed in October, 1798, principal assessor, and Eliphalet W. Close, Joseph Alexander, Jacob A. Fort, John Knickerbocker, Jonathan Brown and John Carpenter were appointed assistant assessors for the seventh district of the fifth division, comprehending the towns of Troy, Hoosick, Schaghticoke and Pittstown. The assessors gave notice of their beginning the assessment in this vicinity and of the peculiar requirements of the law governing their duties. It ran thus:

The inhabitants of the villages of Troy and Lansingburgh are earnestly requested immediately to prepare their lists,—describing the size and number of their lot or lots, as they are known on the charts of said villages; also, the size and height of their dwelling houses, with the particular dimensions of all the windows therein contained—and also, the number, age and sex of all their slaves, if between the ages of 12 and 50 years.

The assessors think it their duty to mention, that in case any fraudulency or omissions are discovered in the aforesaid lists, the offender will be subject to a fine of not more than \$500, nor less than \$100, to be recovered with costs of prosecution.

The prosperity of Lansingburgh at the close of the year 1799 was quite notable and attracted considerable comment both from travelers visiting the place and from newspapers reviewing its rapid growth and local interests. Lansingburgh had now a population of 1,200 inhabitants; there were two churches; from 1787 five newspapers had successively been printed and issued weekly to the citizens of the thriving village; a postoffice had been established; and a very remunerative traffic in grain and other agricultural products was compensating the active and indefatigable efforts of the New England men who had become its leading merchants.

THE WAR OF 1812.

During the war of 1812 the people of Lansingburgh, besides contributing men to the defense of the northern border often hospitably entertained United States soldiers, who, while on the march to the scene of hostilities, bivouacked over night in the village. Several British officers having been taken prisoners and being paroled, were for a time, quartered in Lansingburgh. At the termination of the war the inhabitants celebrated the ratification of peace with a procession and an illumination. A great bonfire blazed upon Diamond rock; a decorated balloon floated away from the village, and a public supper at the hotel, were special features of the occasion.

The presentation of an elegant service of silver plate to Commodore T. Macdonough, the hero of Lake Champlain, by the citizens of the patriotic village, was an event of no little interest to the inhabitants of Lansingburgh. Commodore Macdonough, having arrived in the village on Saturday, April 8, 1815, on his way to Washington, a committee met him at the hotel, and in the presence of a large number of the principal citizens of the place presented him with two large silver pitchers and twelve goblets. The inscriptions on the pitchers were: "Commodore T. Macdonough, with an inferior force, captured the British squadron on Lake Champlain, Sep. 11, 1814;" and, "Presented by the citizens of Lansingburgh to the Hero of Lake Champlain." On the silver goblets: "The citizens of Lansingburgh to Commodore Macdonough."

To the presentation committee, consisting of James Hickok, Daniel Smith, Elias Parmelee, John Topping, Elijah Janes, Gardiner Tracy, James Adams and James Reid, the commodore returned the following reply:

Gentlemen: It is with much pleasure and satisfaction I receive the several pieces of plate which you, on behalf of the citizens of Lansingburgh, have been pleased to present me. This handsome

testimonial of your approbation of my services on Lake Champlain is highly valued, and shall be carefully preserved among other precious and flattering presents with which my countrymen have honored me. Permit me to reciprocate your congratulations on the return of peace to our country. With sentiments of the highest respect and esteem, I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

T. MACDONOUGH.

THE TOWN OF LANSINGBURGH.

The village of Lansingburgh, after the erection of the town of Troy, in 1791, was within the bounds of the latter, until March 20, 1807, when the town of Lansingburgh was formed from parts of the towns of Troy and Petersburgh. A part of the town of Schaghticoke was annexed in 1819; in 1836 a part of the town was added to the town of Troy, and a part to the town of Brunswick in 1839. The minutes of the town meeting in 1807 are in part as follows :

At an annual town meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the town of Lansingburgh, began and held at the house of Robert Wand on the 7th day of April, A. D., 1807, the following persons were elected to office for the ensuing year, viz. :

Town clerk, Ebenezer W. Walbridge; supervisor, Cornelius Lansing; assessors, Elias Parmelee, Aaron B. Hinman, David Henry; collector, John Williams; overseers of the poor, James Adams, David Henry; commissioners of highways, John Gaston, Shubael Gorham, Allen McLean; commissioners of schools, Charles Selden, Thomas Wallace; constables, John Williams, John Wolcott, William Bancker; fence viewers, Aaron B. Hinman, John Wolcott; poundmaster, Asa Burt; overseers of the highways, David Thomas, district No. 1, James Hickok, district No. 2, Aaron B. Hinman, district No. 3.

LANSINGBURGH IN 1824.

To what importance Lansingburgh had grown in 1824 is briefly disclosed by Horatio Gates Spofford, LL. D., in his gazetteer of the State of New York of that date. He says :

It is regularly laid out in blocks or oblong squares, 400 by 200 feet, bounded by capacious streets in right lines, and it is two miles long and a half-mile wide. There is a bank with a capital of \$250,000, and a handsome banking house; five churches; a flourishing academy, occupying two academic buildings with about 200 students. The whole number of houses and stores, including public buildings, 320; population of the village, 1,650. Upwards of 8,000 beaves were slaughtered and packed here during last year, and it is acknowledged that as a pork market this town does more business than any other on the Hudson north of the city of New York. There are two extensive breweries, which sold 6,000 barrels of ale last year. There are large tanneries also, and nail works, and a brush factory, that produces about \$8,000 to \$12,000 worth a year. It has a very re-

spectable printing establishment, a weekly newspaper, and some book stores.

I suppose I must also mention Batetown, half way between Troy and Lansingburgh, for it has a tavern, and, if I mistake not, a few shops.

In 1836 the village contained 2 Presbyterian, 1 Baptist, 1 Methodist, 1 Episcopal and 1 Universalist churches; an excellent academy, 7 schools, a printing office, where was published the *Lansingburgh Gazette*, 4 hotels, 6 wholesale and 40 retail stores. Of manufactories there were 2 oil cloth, 1 brush and bellows, 1 tin, 1 gun, 2 breweries, 3 maltsteries and 2 grist mills. Also a bank and several slaughtering and packing houses. The number of buildings in the place was estimated at 500.

On Sunday afternoon, July 9, 1843, a fire, which originated in the stables of the Rensselaer house, destroyed between 30 and 40 buildings on State, Congress, Richard and Elizabeth streets.

On Sunday night, July 23, the same year, another fire consumed 12 buildings on State street, between Richard and Elizabeth streets.

THE WAR OF REBELLION.

When the dark clouds of war again lowered over the land in 1861, many of the citizens of Lansingburgh left their peaceful occupations to stand in their loyalty before the enemy for the defense of the union of the states. The first full company formed was organized for the thirtieth regiment, New York state volunteers. Col. Frisby commanding. It was mustered in as company A, Samuel King captain; John H. Campbell lieutenant, and Francis Dargen ensign. Capt. King and Ensign Dargen were both killed at the first battle of Bull Run, as were also five privates of the same company. Capt. King is buried in Greenwood cemetery, and Lieut. Dargen in St. John's cemetery. A number of Lansingburgh's brave sons also joined company A of the twenty-second regiment, New York volunteers. Chauncey F. Vandusen, of this company, lost his left arm at the second battle of Bull Run. Company K, one hundred and sixty-ninth regiment was raised by Captain Daniel Ferguson, who was killed at the explosion of the mine at Fort Fisher. There were also many who were connected with the one hundred and twenty-fifth, one hundred and ninety-second regiments, the Griswold cavalry, and other military organizations.

The first war committee in 1862, consisted of A. E. Powers, J. E. Whipple and E. P. Pickett. On the 23d of August, the town resolved to levy a tax of \$6,000 for bounty moneys, \$50 being paid for an enlistment. In September following an additional bounty of \$50 was voted

This was followed, during the progress of the war, by other public contributions.

THE VILLAGE OF DORT.

The territory which now forms the north part of the town of Lansingburgh previous to the year 1819 belonged to the town of Schaghticoke. The site of the hamlet of Spiegletown, which is about two miles north of Lansingburgh, was in 1796 called the village of Dort. The village plat, as it was "laid out and constructed by a scale of 100 feet to an inch by F. Bancker, May, 1796," on a piece of parchment, is still preserved. On it are marked three roads, which diverge from a common point, a little south of which was a building, the site of which is now occupied by the residence of James H. Rice. The road to the north is designated "St. Coick road;" the one leading eastwardly "Cooksburgh road," and the one to the south "Lansigburgh road." On the northeast part of the plat appears the name of John Follet; on the southeast that of William Douglas; on the south that of Rattoon & Van der Spiegel; on the southwest that of William Douglas, and on the northwest that of Charles Follet.

On another map appears the names of John Crab, Crab & Boos, Leonard Wager and Abraham Francisco, who were residents of the immediate vicinity at that time.

The name of Spiegletown no doubt derived its name from the Van der Spiegel who was a partner of Rattoon in 1796. Of the score of buildings which form the hamlet of Spiegletown, there is a hotel, the Union church, school house No. 2, a blacksmith and wagon-making shop. The Germondville Union church of North Lansingburgh was incorporated July 23, 1844. The first trustees were John Storm, Aaron Perry, Nicholas Lape, Charles T. Overoeker and William Mills. The church is now connected with the Cooksburgh charge of the Methodist Episcopal church.

CHURCHES.

The first religious society organized in Lansingburgh was "The Protestant Reformed Dutch church," on the 25th of September, 1784. Its first officers were Zachariah Garuynch and Flores Bancker, elders, and Albert Pawling and Christopher Tillman, deacons. The Rev. Brandt Schnyler Lupton was ordained pastor of this church on the third Sunday of November, 1788. Traditionally it is said that a building once standing on the west side of State street, between Lansing and South streets, was first used as a meeting house by the membership of this church. After the organization of the first

Presbyterian church the Dutch church rapidly lost its members, and about the close of the century its pulpit was no longer filled by ministers of the latter denomination.

The record of the incorporation of the First Presbyterian church of Lansingburgh affords us the principal facts concerning the early history of this society: "Be it remembered, that on the 9th day of August, A. D. 1792, the inhabitants of Lansingburgh, in consequence of due notice, convened in general meeting for the purpose of organizing themselves in a religious society, agreeably to the direction of an act of the legislature of the state of New York, etc., and in pursuance of the directions of said act, did, on this day, elect Levinus Lansing, John Lovett, John D. Dickinson, James Dole, Jonas Morgan and Shubael Gorham trustees for said congregation; and the said inhabitants did vote and agree that the said corporation should be known by law by the name of the trustees of the First Presbyterian church and congregation of Lansingburgh." It was determined that a house for worship should be built of brick, 50x64 feet, at the north end of "The Green," the rear of the building toward Hoosick street. The cornerstone of the edifice was laid on Thursday afternoon, July 5, 1793, by the Rev. Jonas Coc, pastor of the United Presbyterian congregations of Lansingburgh and Troy. On the 23d of June, 1794, the church was dedicated.

In 1844-45 the present Presbyterian church was erected on the east side of Congress street, between Elizabeth and Market streets. The Rev. Jonas Coc, D. D., was pastor of this church from June 25, 1793, to 1804. His successor was the Rev. Samuel Blatchford, D. D., who began his pastorate July 19, 1804, which he held to March 18, 1828. The Rev. A. M. Beveridge, the present pastor, entered upon his ministry in this church on the third Sunday of July, 1858.

The first Protestant Episcopal church in Lansingburgh was duly organized on the fifth of January, 1804, by the election of the following persons as officers; John Young and David Smith, wardens; John Rutherford, William Bradley, Stephen Ross, John Walsh, Joseph S. Mabbett, Jonathan Burr, John Stewart and Henry Davis, vestrymen. The organization took the name of Trinity church of Lansingburgh. A frame building, 45 by 50 feet, it is said, was built the same year, on the northwest corner of John and Market streets. The Rev. David Butler, D. D., was rector of this church, and also of St. Paul's, Troy, from January 9, 1806, to 1814. As rector of Trinity church, in 1814, he was succeeded by

the Rev. Parker Adams. A new church edifice was built in 1869-70 on the northwest corner of John and Market streets. The Rev. Byron J. Hall has been the rector of Trinity church since December 16, 1867.

The first Baptist society of Lansingburgh was formed on the 11th day of June, 1803. The first trustees were Daniel Seymour, Aaron B. Hinman, Francis Choate, Nathaniel Jacobs and William Spafford. The meeting house was erected on the corner of North and John streets. A reorganization of this society was effected July 28, 1858. The present church building, on the east side of John street, between Richard and Elizabeth streets, formerly belonged to the Second Presbyterian church. The present pastor, the Rev. A. C. Ferguson, entered upon his ministrations over this society October 1, 1878.

In 1810 the members of the Methodist Episcopal church in Lansingburgh erected their first house of worship on the river bank, at the foot of Elizabeth street. In 1827 the following persons were the trustees of the church: Ephraim Goss, Jacob Heimstreet, Edwin Filley, Alexander Van Pelt, jr., Thomas Ward, Benjamin Case and Alexander Van Pelt, sr. The present house of worship, on the northeast corner of Congress and Elizabeth streets, was erected in 1848. The Rev. Joel W. Eaton is the present pastor of the church.

The first Universalist society of Lansingburgh was formed December 15, 1832. A small church was erected in 1834 on the corner of John and North streets. The property subsequently was purchased by the trustees of St. John's Roman Catholic church.

The Second Presbyterian church was organized June 24, 1835. A house of worship was erected on the east side of John street, between Elizabeth and Richard streets, which is now occupied by the Baptist society. The first trustees of the Second Presbyterian church were: William Van Vleck, Jonathan Wickware, Nathan Strutton, Lemuel Kennedy, William McMurray and Chauncey Ives. The Rev. Samuel P. Spear was the first pastor of the church. This congregation since the resignation of the Rev. George P. Tyler, D. D., in June, 1874, has not continued its organization. Some of the members of this body, however, erected a mission chapel on the northwest corner of Congress and Clinton streets, which was dedicated September 1, 1877.

St. John's Roman Catholic church was organized about the year 1841. On June 5, 1842, James B. Smith, James Halligan, Keating Rawson, John Higgins, George T. Gillespie, Barnet Evers, John Dooley, John Driscoll and Daniel Murray were chosen trust-

ees. The church was dedicated in 1844, by the Right Rev. John McCloskey, D. D. The present edifice used now by the old congregation of St. John's church, known as St. Augustine's church, is on the east side of John street, between Market and Elizabeth streets, and was erected in 1864-65 at an expense of \$40,000.

The Free Methodist church was organized at Whipple hall, October 15, 1867. That year a house of worship was erected on Ann street, south of Elizabeth street. The Rev. George E. Ferrin was the first pastor of this church.

Among the early religious societies organized in the village, one known as the Scotch Seeders is said to have occupied about the year 1790, as a place of worship, a building on the northwest corner of John and Richard streets.

The African Methodist Episcopal church of Lansingburgh was incorporated May 18, 1841. Twenty-five years after its organization the society dissolved.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

The most prominent manufacturing business of the place is the making of oil cloths. Early in the year 1817 William Powers advertised that he had engaged in the business of manufacturing oil cloths. The extensive establishment of Deborah Powers & Sons and that of R. C. Haskell, in the southern part of the village, indicate the local importance of the business.

William McMurray, in 1818, began the manufacture of brushes in the village. His business, since that date, has grown into one of the leading industries of Lansingburgh. The wide reputation which the various factories of the village enjoys throughout the United States for the excellent quality of the various kinds and styles of brushes made by them is quite notable. The principal brush manufacturers are J. G. McMurray & Co.; George Scott, Peter B. King, E. & C. Wood, J. C. Pushee & Co., James McQuide, Flinn Brothers, Comeskey Brothers, F. Hoyt and Thomas Curran.

The manufacture of crackers in the village dates back to 1806, when the father of Joseph Fox was engaged in the business. The large steam cracker establishment of Joseph Fox and the well-known cracker bakery of R. M. DeFreest enhance the value of Lansingburgh's manufacturing interests. The firm of Edward Tracy & Co. has long been established in the manufacture of malt. The Ludlow valve manufacturing company, which since 1872 has been extensively engaged in making the celebrated "Ludlow sliding stop valves," for the safe and economical distribution of water, steam and gas, and also the "Ludlow patent friction hydrants," at the extreme south part of the vil-

lage, gives employment to a large number of workmen. The carriage factory of Edwin Chamberlain, the knit goods mill of Harder & Co., the scale works and foundry of Arnold & Rowe, and the brewing establishment of Samuel Bolton & Sons add industry and prosperity to the place.

LANSINGBURGH NEWSPAPERS.

The *Northern Centinel and Lansingburgh Advertiser*, issued on Monday, May 21, 1787, as a weekly, by Claxton & Babcock, King street, between Hoosick and South streets, Lansingburgh, was the first newspaper published within the territory now embraced in the county of Rensselaer.

The *Federal Herald*, weekly, by Babcock & Hickok, succeeded the *Northern Centinel* May 5, 1788.

The *American Spy* was the name of the newspaper which followed the former, April 8, 1791, published by Silvester Tiffany.

The *Northern Budget*, by Robert Moffitt & Co., became the successor of the *Spy*, June 20, 1797.

The *Lansingburgh Gazette*, after the removal of the *Budget* to Troy, May 15, 1798, had its first issue on September 12, 1798, and was first edited and printed by Gardiner Tracy. A. B. Elliott is the present editor and proprietor of this well known journal.

The *Farmer's Register* was issued for the first time January 25, 1803, by Francis Adancourt.

The *Democratic Press and Lansingburgh Advertiser* had its first publication January 13, 1838, by William J. Lamb.

The *Literary Cabinet* was the next paper, November, 1841.

The *Golden Rule*, January 1, 1844, monthly, by the Rev. Rolla J. Smith.

The *Antiquarian and General Review*, a monthly, by the Rev. Wm. Arthur, March, 1847.

The *Lansingburgh Daily Gazette*, by Mitchell & Kirkpatrick, January 3, 1860.

The *Semi-Weekly Chronicle*, April 6, 1864, by J. D. Comstock.

Our Little Paper, September 13, 1872, by E. D. Ayres.

The *Enterprise*, November 29, 1873, by J. D. Comstock.

The *Lansingburgh Courier*, December 24, 1875, by Isaac L. Van Voast and William H. Engel.

BANKS.

The first banking institution of the village was the bank of Lansingburgh, incorporated March 19, 1813. The building in which the bank began business was the one now known as No. 531 State street. The first board of directors was: Elijah Janes, Shubael Gorham, Abraham C. Lansing, James Dennison, Gardiner Tracy,

James Hickok, James Adams, Jonathan Burr, Timothy Leonard, Silvanus J. Peuniman, Elias Parmelee, John Stewart, Calvin Barker, James Dougrey and Asa Burt. Elijah Janes was chosen president and James Reid cashier. The amount of capital authorized was \$200,000. This institution, by the depreciation of the value of its assets, discontinued business March 19, 1877.

The Rensselaer county bank was established in Lansingburgh January 1, 1853. John S. Fake was the first president of the institution. On the 13th of July, 1872, the bank discontinued business.

Bank of D. Powers & Sons was established March 20, 1877. Deborah Powers, Albert E. Powers and Nathaniel Powers being sole partners in the institution.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The first masonic organization that was formed in Lansingburgh was Hiram lodge, No. 35, the warrant granted it by the grand lodge, bearing date of August 16, 1787. The lodge room in the year 1795 was on the second floor of Hammer's tavern, which stood where now is the Phoenix hotel. Early in this century Hiram lodge ended its work.

Phoenix lodge No. 361 has its warrant dated June 23, 1823. Under a dispensation of the grand lodge in September, 1822, Benjamin W. Horr, Chauncey Ives, Nathan Morey, Alvan Hawley, Samuel H. Mulford, Samuel S. Bingham, David Reading, Ephraim Goss, B. B. Stearns and Jonathan Choate met together for the first time on September 26. The political crusade against masonic bodies about the year 1834 led the few remaining members of Phoenix lodge to surrender its charter on January 6, 1836. In 1838 the grand lodge was petitioned for a new charter, which was granted, and on June 7, 1839, Phoenix lodge No. 58 assumed its second existence. The lodge room is in the Masonic hall, No. 635 State street.

In 1854 Jerusalem lodge No. 355 was organized.

Phoenix chapter No. 133 received its dispensation Nov. 22, 1849.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is represented by Bethlehem Rebecca degree lodge No. 49.

The temperance cause is advocated by Diamond Rock Temple of Honor No. 35 and by the Christian Temperance Union of Lansingburgh. The Lansingburgh academy was incorporated February 20, 1796.

CENSUS OF THE TOWN OF LANSINGBURGH.

1770.....	50	1835.....	3,298
1780.....	400	1840.....	3,330
1790.....	560	1845.....	3,682
1795.....	900	1850.....	5,752
1800.....	1,200	1855.....	5,799
1805.....	1,400	1860.....	5,577
1810.....	1,900	1865.....	6,072
1815.....	1,800	1870.....	6,803
1820.....	2,025	1875.....	9,024
1825.....	2,423	1880.....	7,774
1830.....	2,663		

From 1771 to 1815 the population of the village is estimated. From 1820 it is the census of the town of Lansingburgh.

CHAPTER V.

THE TOWN OF GREENBUSH.

THE GROUND OF THE INDIAN NAWANEMITT—THE ARABLE LAND OF DE LAET'S BURG—THE FLIGHT OF THE SETTLERS TO FORT CRALO—THE DIVISION OF RENSSELAERWYCK—THE SALE OF THE LOTS OF THE AKIN MILE SQUARE—THE BURIAL OF THIRTY-THREE PERSONS IN ONE DAY—THE INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE—THE HISTORY OF ITS CHURCHES—HISTORICAL MEMORANDA.

In the month of May, 1623, while the Indians inhabiting the east and west banks of the Hudson were busily engaged with their spring fishing, they beheld a Dutch ship, with all its sails spread, moving slowly past them, going northward. It was the *New Netherland*, which had left Holland, in March, for the fertile country bordering the beautiful river recently explored by the English navigator, Henry Hudson. There were 18 families on board that intended settling about the rudely built outpost, named Fort Orange, which had just been "thrown up and completed" near the river, on a part of the ground that is now occupied by the city of Albany.

It is said that shortly after these emigrants had built themselves "some huts of bark," the Mohegans, the Mohawks, the Oneidas, the Onondagas, the Cayugas and the Senecas, with the Ottawawa Indians, "came and made covenants of friendship" with the Dutch commander, Adriaen Joris, "bringing him great presents of beaver or other peltry, and desired that they might come and have a constant free trade with them, which was concluded upon." It is further related that for years thereafter the Indians "were all as quiet as lambs, and came and traded with all the freedom imaginable."

DE LAET'S BURG.

This early settlement at Fort Orange, it should be remembered, was previous to the year 1629. Afterward, in 1629, the Dutch West India company permitted persons of wealth to become permanent possessors of large tracts of

land, who, within four years, should settle on them colonies of 50 adult persons. Among the several purchases of tracts of lands from the Indians made by the agents of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, under this charter of exemptions and privileges, was one which embraced the ground on which Greenbush is now built. This part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck along the Hudson belonged to an Indian sachem named Nawanemitt, and was "called Semesseeck, lying on the east side of the aforesaid river, opposite the Fort Orange, as well above as below, and from Poetanock, the mill creek, northwards to Negagonee, being about 12 miles large measure." Among the shareholders of the West India company considerable dissatisfaction was caused by these large acquisitions of landed estate by Kiliaen Van Rensselaer. This wealthy patroon in order to have his patents confirmed by the legislative chambers of Holland, was obliged to divide the territory obtained from the Indians with three other directors of the Amsterdam chamber: the Dutch historian, John de Laet, Samuel Godyn and Samuel Blommaert. The latter had associated with him Adam Bissels and Toussaint Mousart.

The several divisions of the manor of Rensselaerwyck are in a general way designated on the old map of the manor made by Gillis van Schendel in 1630. That portion of land occupied by the railroad companies' freight houses and car shops is named on this old chart *De Laet's Eylandt*—De Laet's island; the stream south of it is called *De Laet's meulen kill ende*

interval—De Laet's mill creek and waterfall. On the south side of the creek, and on the bank of the river, there are several houses delineated which no doubt were intended to mark the probable site of a future village, and which is denominated *De Laet's Burg*. This was the local name given 250 years ago to the land on which the village of Greenbush is situated.

THE FIRST SETTLERS.

The *bouw landt*, arable land, opposite Fort Orange, on the east bank of the river, soon attracted the attention of the Dutch farmers immigrating from Holland. The several streams of water emptying contiguously into the river very likely reminded them of the fatherland, where numerous canals diversified the dyke-protected country. Gerrit Teunissen de Reus, *schepen*, sheriff, as early as 1631, had built himself a home and had a well stocked farm, in the vicinity of the *Groenen bosch*, the green or pine woods, which formed a part of the landscape in the vicinity of De Laet's mill creek. At the south end of this wood, Teunis Cornelissen van Vechten was living in 1648. North of him, Teunis Dirksen van Vechten had a farm. He had emigrated from Holland in 1638, having taken passage in the Arms of Norway with his wife, child and two servants. In 1642 Evert Pels van Steltyn, a brewer, was living near the river, on the bank of Mill creek. For the purpose of facilitating communication between the people living on the west and east banks of the river, as early as 1643 a ferry was established between Fort Orange, or Beaverwyck, as the village around the fort was early called, and Groenen bosch, now Greenbush. Hendrick Albertsen had charge of it.

FORT CRALO.

As a means of protection against any sudden attack of the Indians the patroon of Rensselaerwyck had a small fort constructed on his farm at Greenbush. This newly built fort, in June, 1663, when the news of the massacre of the people living at Esopus reached the ears of farmers dwelling in the vicinity of it, became a very important place of safety to them. The alarm at the time was widespread, and the entire neighborhood was deserted by those who for weeks found a home within its walls. The following extract from the "*Resolutie boeck der Colonie Rensselaerwyck*," refers to what took place among the early settlers who had fled to Fort Cralo:

12th JUNE, 1663.—Information rec'd of murders and burning which occurred at Esopus, last Thursday, 7th inst. the Court of Rensselaerwyck renewed the resolution of the 1st of April, 1660, for

the establishment of a night watch. Cornelis van Nes was appointed captain, and Willem Fredericks Bout, corporal. List of colonists in Greenbush; Under the chief officer Cornelis van Nes: Cornelis Stevensen Mullen, Adam Dingermans, Gerrit van Nes, Jan Juriansen, Jan van Nes, Jacobus Jansen, Tynon Hendricksen. Under Corporal Willem Bout: Jan Oothout, Hendrick van Nes; Hendrick Maessen [van Buren] Gerrit Teunissen, Frans Jacobsen, Hendrick Willemsen, Claes Claessen. The officers shall take good care that none of the watch shall fire unless when necessary, under the penalty of six guilders for the first, twelve for the second, and an arbitrary correction for the third offence. Actum in Greene Bos in the Colonie Rensselaerwyck, this 12th June 1663.

In July, 1664, war broke out among the Indians, and the Mohawks inhabiting the west side of the river drew the hatchet against the Mohegans, or Mahicans as the Dutch called the Indians living on the east side. Jeremias Van Rensselaer, writing to Director Stuyvesant from Fort Orange, July 14, says that the latter "are fled from the Mohawks, and the next consequence was that the Indians of the colonie have, on last Monday, the 7th instant, at one onslaught, killed nine head" of cattle "in Director Rensselaer's bouwerie in Greenbush." Subsequently the Indians became quite friendly, and for a long time gave no occasion to the settlers to fear any secret attack from them.

THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

In 1689 the people were once more alarmed by fears of incursions from the French and Indians, who, by rapid marches, made sudden descents from Canada upon the New England colonies and the farmers of northern New York. The following minutes of a convention assembled at Albany, August 21, 1689, exhibit the apprehensions of the people residing along the upper Hudson:

Resolved to acquaint ye Inhabitants of ye County ye news yt we received of Col. Pynchen.

That Pemmaquid was taken by ye Indians and french 43 People Kild & Taken—also that there should be a ship be come to Quebec of ye french with news of wars Between Engld & france & therefore nothing can be Expected but yt ye french will doe all ye mischieffe they can to this govrnmt & therefore every one to be upon there garde & take care that they be not surprized. Mr. [D.] Wessels and Reynier Barentse were Desynged to Communicate this to the farmers of Kinderhook & Claverack. Capt. [J.] Wendel & John Lansing the People above. Richd Pretty & Evert Banker at Skenechtady & Canastaglorne.

Two days afterward the people of Greenbush it seems were thrown into great alarm by a supposed attack upon them by the Indians. This is apparent from the records of the convention held at Albany:

The 24th day of August, 1689. *Resolved*, That ye Inhabitants of ye County be informed of ye alarm which was last night at ye green Bush occasioned by some Malitious Persones fyrcing of Severall gunns with Baale throw ye Door and house of John Witment which was done by letters accordingly.

The 28th of August, 1689. *Resolved*, yt Barent Gerritse of Bethlehem who is suspected to have had a hand in ye late disturbance yt was at Green Bush, or least Privy to it yt he give 50 £ security to answer when he shall be called for to be Examined about yt Bussinesse.

In time the disturbing elements of hostility were repressed by the strong arm of the English government and peace and prosperity blessed the province.

THE TOWN OF GREENBUSH.

On the 10th day of April, 1792, the state legislature passed "An act for dividing the several towns therein mentioned," by which the town of Greenbush was formed. The territory embraced was the following:

All that part of the town of Rensselaerwyck, which lies north of a line to be drawn from a point on the east bank of the river Hudson, eight miles distant from the southwest corner of the town of Rensselaerwyck, and running from thence east to the west bounds of Stephentown, shall be and is hereby erected into a separate town, by the name of Greenbush; and that the first town meeting in Greenbush shall be held at the dwelling house of Abraham M. de Forest, in the said town. And that all the remaining part of the town of Rensselaerwyck shall be and remain a separate town by the name of Rensselaerwyck; and that the first town meeting in Rensselaerwyck shall be held at the dwelling house of John J. Miller in said town.

A second act relating to the town was passed March 17, 1795. A portion of the town was taken off June 19, 1812, to form the town of Sandlake. To make the towns of Clinton (now East Greenbush) and North Greenbush, another part was subtracted February 23, 1855.

THE AKIN MILE SQUARE.

The ground on which the village of Greenbush is situate was on the 29th day of March, 1810, conveyed by Stephen Van Rensselaer and Stephen N. Bayard, the surviving trustees of John J. Van Rensselaer, to William Akin of Pawlingstown, Dutchess county, Titus Goodman and John Dickinson of Pittsfield, Mass., for the sum of \$60,000. It was purchased for speculative purposes, and was laid out into building lots and streets. Embracing an area of ground a mile square, it was thereafter designated "the Akin mile square." The lots near the river were 100 feet

wide in front and in the rear 66 feet. The greater part of the blocks contained three and two-third acres of land. In the smaller blocks the lots were generally 200 feet long by 50 feet wide. In 1773, this portion of the manor of Rensselaerwyck appears on a map made by Robert Yates. The residence of John Van Rensselaer, esq., widow Ten Broeck, widow Lumbus, John Yates, John McLellan, Henry Cuyler and Jacob Van Schaick seem to form the embryo hamlet which grew into the village of Greenbush. The first sale of lots was quite remunerative, but the second attracted only a few buyers, and the project of the purchasers ended in a long litigation. In 1813, it is said that 50 buildings had been erected on this plot.

A MELANCHOLY DAY.

Among the events connected with the growth of Greenbush was one which was long remembered by its inhabitants. In the spring of 1807 the ferry-boat plying between the little hamlet and Albany was swamped by a south wind and 33 persons on it were drowned. Among the lost were a large number of leading persons living in the vicinity and in Albany, and their funerals made one of the most melancholy days known in the history of the two places.

THE VILLAGE OF GREENBUSH.

The act incorporating the village of Greenbush was passed April 14, 1815. Subsequent acts were passed April 5, 1828; March 22, 1854, and April 23, 1863. The present bounds of the village are found in the act passed April 25, 1871:

Beginning at a point in the Hudson river, opposite the city of Albany, on the division line between the counties of Albany and Rensselaer, on a line running 150 feet north of the northerly line of Catharine street, thence running easterly, and parallel to, and 150 north of the northerly line of said Catharine street, to its terminus; thence easterly on the same parallel, across the lands now owned by Dr. James McNaughton, to a point 150 feet east of the westerly line of the lands known as the Mason farm; thence southerly, 150 feet east of the westerly line of the said Mason farm, to a point 150 feet south of the southerly line of Partition street; thence westerly, parallel to and 150 feet south of the southerly line of Partition street, to a point 150 feet east of the easterly line of Cottage Hill street; thence southerly, parallel to and 150 feet east of the easterly line of Cottage Hill street, to a point 150 feet south of the southerly line of Mill street; thence west, parallel to and 150 feet south of the southerly line of said Mill street, to a point where the said line will intersect the west bounds of the county of Rensselaer; thence north along the said west bounds to the place of beginning, shall be known and distinguished as the village of Greenbush. * * * * The officers shall be a president, eight trustees, clerk, street commis-

clerk and treasurer, and three inspectors of election in each ward.

CHURCHES.

As early as the year 1820 the people of Greenbush were accustomed to meet together in the village school house to hear on Sundays various preachers discourse upon selected Bible texts. The certificate of incorporation of the First Presbyterian church of Greenbush declares that "a meeting of the male inhabitants of full age who have been stately in the habit of attending public religious worship at the upper room in the school house in the village of Greenbush * * * was held at said room on the 27th day of April, 1825, pursuant to a notice read at said room for two Sabbaths preceding said 27th day of April, immediately after divine service ended and the first notice given more than 15 days previous to said 27th day of April, 1825, for the purpose of choosing a board of trustees with a view to the incorporation of a religious society in said village according to the statute." The trustees chosen were Samuel Cheever, Hugh Gordon, Jacob S. Miller, Samuel Tibbals, jr., John Alden, Solomon Cone and Merriek Ross. The organization took the name of "The First Presbyterian church in Greenbush."

In 1827 a house of worship was erected on land donated by William Akin. The Rev. Edward Stratton, the present pastor, was installed June 25, 1874.

The organization of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Greenbush took place in the village school-house, February 22, 1833. At this meeting the following persons were elected trustees: James Walker, Enos Northup, Benjamin Bradbury, Robert D. Kemp and James Hallenbeck. In 1833 the congregation began the erection of a frame building for a place of worship on Washington street, which was first used for worship May 11, 1834, the Rev. Joshua Poor being the first pastor. In 1853 the old building was torn down, and a handsome structure of brick, 65x42 feet, erected near its site, at a cost of about \$8,000. It was dedicated in January, 1854. In 1862 the building was enlarged by the addition of a transept 24x62 feet, at a cost of \$7,000. The Rev. R. H. Robinson became pastor of this congregation in 1879.

The first Protestant Episcopal church organized in Greenbush was that of, the "Church of the Messiah." The congregation, which had been meeting since 1851 in the village school house, assembled on the evening of the 19th of July, 1853, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, chairman. A vote being taken, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer and Henry Finch were elected church wardens, and George S. Weaver, Alexander H.

Henry, Thomas R. Mather, Frederick G. Lane, Francis Van Rensselaer, Benjamin B. Kirtland, John M. Boudy and Squire Greenhough vestrymen. The present church edifice, on the corner of Third avenue and Washington street, was erected in 1853-4. The Rev. Edgar T. Chapman is the present rector of this church.

St. John's Roman Catholic church was organized about the year 1850 by the Rev. John Cory, who became the first resident priest. A small church was erected shortly afterward, which in 1857 gave place to a new building, built at an expense of \$12,000. The Rev. James E. Duffy is the present pastor and the Rev. M. Seanlon assistant. The church has about 2,000 communicants.

The Greenbush Baptist church sprang from a mission established by the Albany Baptist missionary union. A congregation was organized in 1870. The society was formally incorporated May 27, 1874. The following trustees were then elected: Merritt H. Waterbury, Thomas Garrison, D. O. Denison, William Brooks, Sylvester Waterbury, James E. Aiken and James A. Campbell. The present pastor, the Rev. Adoniram Waterbury, was installed February 1, 1874.

The second Protestant Episcopal church organized in Greenbush was the body known as the "Church of the Epiphany," in 1873. Several years after a church building was erected on the corner of Catharine and Third streets. The Rev. Richard Temple is the rector.

The Greenbush Congregational church was organized in 1879 by the Rev. B. Stanton, the present pastor, and 16 other persons from various sister churches. The church building, on the corner of Partition and Third streets, was erected in 1879-80.

NEWSPAPERS.

The Greenbush *Guardian* was first published in August, 1856, by A. J. Goodrich and afterwards by J. D. Comstock.

The *Rensselaer County Gazette* had its first issue September 8, 1870, Thomas McKee and Duncan MacFarlane, publishers and proprietors. Early in the summer of 1871 Thomas McKee became the editor and owner of the paper.

The Greenbush *Democrat* began its publication December 2, 1876, by Philip F. Bray, the present editor and proprietor.

POPULATION.

The village of Greenbush is known locally by two names. The lower or southern part is called by the former name, while the northern part is generally designated as East Albany. The Albany and Boston railroad freight houses

and workshops are on the island opposite, as is also the Greenbush depot.

In 1836 Greenbush contained two grist mills, on Mill creek, a distillery, two churches, a flourishing academy, four hotels, eight stores and from 80 to 100 dwellings.

At present the steam saw mill of T. Miles & Co., that of C. Warren & Son, the grist mill and malt house of William M. Irwin & Co., the grist mill of Charles C. Lodewick, the steam cracker bakery of Jonas Whiting & Co., the tannery of J. Ruyter & Son, the shoe factory of Walden & France, and the Albany stamping works, Hoy & Co., are the important manufacturing interests of the village.

The population of the town of Greenbush since 1800 is as follows:

1800.....	3,472	1845.....	4,182
1810.....	4,458	1850.....	3,945
1815.....	2,390	1855.....	3,303
1820.....	2,764	1860.....	3,692
1825.....	2,914	1865.....	4,279
1830.....	3,210	1870.....	4,202
1835.....	3,345	1875.....	7,006
1840.....	3,701	1880.....	6,742

SOCIETIES.

The masonic societies of Greenbush embrace the Greenbush lodge of F. and A. M., No. 337, chartered July 1, 1854. The Greenbush Chapter, R. A. M., No. 274, organized February 2, 1876.

The Independent order of Odd Fellows have one lodge, the Farmers' and Mechanics', No. 157.

Of temperance societies there are Irving lodge I. O. of G. T., No. 26, and St. Patrick's Father Matthew society.

CHAPTER VI.

TOWN OF EAST GREENBUSH.

THE GREAT FOREST EXTENDED TO CANADA—THE BUILDING OF A FORT AT
 PAEPSKNEE—AN OLD DUTCH KIRKEN BOEK—THE FAMOUS SPRINGS OF
 HARROWGATE—THE HOME OF MINISTER GENET—THE MILITARY CAN-
 TONMENT AT GREENBUSH—THE PUNISHMENT OF RIDING IN A WHIRLI-
 GIG—THE ERECTION OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON—PRESENT STATISTICS
 —POPULATION.

It was Cowper who longingly sighed :

"O for a lodge in some vast wilderness,
 Some boundless contiguity of shade,
 Where rumor of oppression and deceit,
 Of unsuccessful or successful war,
 Might reach me no more."

The peace-loving poet no doubt believed that the somber surroundings of a great, continuous forest were protective against the evil machinations of men. Had he lived in America, about the year 1689, on the east side of the Hudson river, where then, as it is said, was a vast and closely grown wood that extended from Kinderhook to Canada, perhaps, he would not have thought it a proper place for the realization of his fanciful conceptions of a contented retirement from the disturbing enmities of mankind. Through the sunless depths of this immense forest bands of horribly painted Indians and companies of hostile French soldiers sometimes secretly moved on murderous missions.

PAEPSKNEE ISLAND.

The first Dutch settlers who, with cleaving axes, had felled, here and there, near the river, green trees of this old forest of pines, *de groenen bosch*, and had upon these clearings built themselves log farm-houses, were often alarmed by the sudden incursions from Canada of massacring bodies of savages and revengeful French soldiery.

Opposite the mainland now known as East Greenbush, at a close remove from the shore, is a long island which at a quite early date had received the name

of Paepsknee. This isolated piece of land, sometimes called Poepskenekoes and Papakenenea, it would seem, was selected by the Dutch people living in the vicinity as a place of refuge from the bloody tomahawks of the Indians and the capturing hands of the Canadian invaders. For at a convention held in Albany on the 4th of September "in ye First-year of ye Reign of our Souveraign Lord and Lady, King William and Queen Mary of Eng^l, France & Ireland &c Defenders of ye Faith, Ao 1689," the following action was taken for the defense and security of the farmers living in the vicinity of Paepsknee island :

Resolved, Since there is such Eminent Danger Threatened by ye French of Canida and there Praying Indians to come into this Country to kill and Destroy there Majes Subjects that there be Immediately An Express sent doune to Capt. Leysler and ye Rest of ye Militia officers of ye City and County of New Yorke for assistance of one hundred men or more for ye securing of there Majes Fort and ye out Plantations of this County as also a Recrute of six hundred weight of Ponder and foure hundred Bale viz to 200 Two Ponders and 200 four Ponders with some match & one hundred hand granadoes out of there Majes Stores and Two hundred Pounds out of there Majes Revenue which we understand is dayly collected by them for to employ ye Maquase and oyr Indians in there Majes Service for ye Securing ye frontier Parts of this County from any Incursions of sd Indians or French.

Resolved, That there be a fort made at Paepsknee in ye most Convenient Place & yt Melgert abrah Claes van Petten marte Cornelis gerrit

gysbertsen & ye Inhabitants of Paepsnee make ye same for there security to retreat into upon occasion & that albt Ryckman & John Beckman see it effected.

THE FIRST DUTCH CHURCH.

For a long time after the settlement of the territory now included within the town of East Greenbush the farmers and their families were in the habit of attending religious worship at the Dutch church, in Albany. When, however, the community of farmers was large enough for the organization of a congregation, the settlers were gathered together and a society formed, which took the name of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of Greenbush. This was done in the year 1787. The first pastor of this rural church was the Rev. Jacobus Van Campen Romeyn, who, being licensed by the synod of the Dutch Reformed church of New York, October 5, 1787, began his pastorate in February, 1788. Shortly after the passage of the state law in regard to the incorporation of churches, this congregation took the necessary steps to comply with the legal enactment. As stated in the preamble of the legal certificate of the meeting held for this purpose the proceedings of the members of the church were according to "an act making such alterations in the act for incorporating religious societies as to render the same more convenient to the Reformed Protestant Dutch congregations, passed the 7th day of March, 1788. The meeting was held in the church at Greenbush, in the county of Albany, on the 12th of August, 1788. The Rev. Jacobus Van Campen Romeyn, minister; Christopher Yates, Abraham Ostrander and Peter M. Van Buren, elders; and Abraham Cooper, Kasparus Witbeck and John E. Lansing, deacons, were then and there, by virtue of the said act, organized as "The minister, elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of Greenbush."

AN OLD CHURCH BOOK.

The records of the congregation of this date are still preserved in the church book, which is written in "black Dutch." On the title-page is the following:

*Kerken Boek
van het
Greene Bos*

*Behelzende een register van gedoopte, huwelijk, kerkenzienst, handelingen, etc., begonnen door,
Jacobus Van Campen Romeyn,
Predikant van de nederige Gemeente van het
Greene Bos en Schoelack. Anno 1788.*

[The church book of Greenbush, containing a register of baptisms, marriages, services, proceedings, etc., begun by Jacobus Van Campen

Romeyn, preacher of low German at Greenbush and Schoelack. Year 1788.]

Among the first members of the church were Anthony Abrams, Nancy Abrams, Andries Bartel, Hendrick Brezee, William Buswell, Peter Dingman, Peter Fonda, Abraham Lansing, Direk Hansen, Samuel Hitchcock, Hendrick Hollenbeck, John Holliday, Matthew Holliday, Thomas Mesick, Stephen Muller, Francis Ott, James Patten, Jacobus Salisbury, Jonathan Salisbury, Joseph Salisbury, John Schermerhorn, Robert Sharp, Jeremiah Shane, Johannes Spoor, Christian Spring, Adam Tod, Benjamin Van den Bergh, Cornelius Van Buren, Isaac Van der Poel, Jonathan T. Witbeck, Peter W. Witbeck and Tobias Witbeck.

The various pastors of this church since its organization have been the following: 1788-99, the Rev. J. V. C. Romeyn; 1801-11, the Rev. J. L. Zabriskie; 1811-13, the Rev. I. Labagh; 1814-22, the Rev. N. J. Marselus; 1822-25, the Rev. B. C. Taylor; 1826-29, the Rev. A. H. Dumont; 1830-34, the Rev. J. A. Liddell; 1834-52, the Rev. E. P. Stimpson; 1852-60, the Rev. J. R. Talmage; 1861-66, the Rev. P. Q. Wilson; 1866-77, the Rev. W. Anderson; 1877 to date, the Rev. John Steele, D. D.

The site of the old church edifice was near that of the present one. Although services were held in the old one as early as 1788, it was not completed for a number of years afterward. On February 10, 1794, the committee of the house of assembly to whom was referred the petition of a number of the members of the church for an act permitting them to create a lottery to raise money to complete the church, reported against granting the petition. The second church edifice was built in 1860 and dedicated in 1861. The church has a large and active membership, and an excellent Sunday school.

THE TOWN OF GREENBUSH.

The territory which is now known as East Greenbush, on April 10, 1792, was designated by the legislature as part of the town of Greenbush, having been subtracted from the town of Rensselaerwyck at that time. The Tierken kill, or Mill creek, rises in the town of East Greenbush and flows into the Hudson, opposite Albany, by a meandering course of seven miles. Moordener's creek, having its source in the town of Sandlake, flows through the southeast part of the town and empties into the Hudson, at Castleton. Along the Hudson, opposite Albany, the land belonging to East Greenbush rises to elevations varying from 100 to 300 feet. A high hill, conspicuous to an observer looking eastwardly from the new capitol building in Albany, is known by the name of

Ponokose, a name said to have been given it by an old Stockbridge Indian. Eastwardly from the bluffs along the river the surface dispreads into a rolling upland, rising gradually toward the eastern boundaries of the town. The soil is composed of gravel, sand and clay, and is quite fertile.

THE HARROWGATE SPRING.

In 1792, about half a mile from the Greenbush ferry, a spring of water was found, which was deemed a discovery of no little importance at the time. Having mineral properties similar to the famous Harrowgate springs, 20 miles west of York city, England, and valuable to persons having diseases of the skin, scrofula and gout, this spring was designated by the same name, which it retains to the present day. A suitable building was erected for visitors seeking the use of the water. Until the war of 1812 this spring attracted considerable attention, but when in 1812 a military encampment was formed near it, the frequenters gradually decreased, and the establishment lost favor with the public. In 1822 a second effort was made to popularize the spring by the erection of bathing houses and other accommodations, but the project was a failure.

THE HOME OF GENET.

The name of Edmund Charles Genet at the close of the eighteenth century was a very familiar one to the people of the United States. He had been sent from France in December, 1792, as minister plenipotentiary and consul-general to this country. The aversion of the people of the United States, engendered by the war of the revolution, toward Great Britain, had not been much abated, and the sympathy of the people toward France was still generous and affectionate. When the French republic declared war against England, Washington, as president, was obliged to issue in 1793 a proclamation enjoining strict neutrality on the part of the United States. Genet, misled by the enthusiastic reception given him on his arrival in this country, immediately began to use his influence to excite the people into a state of opposition to this proclamation. He went so far as to fit out vessels and to commission officers in America to sail the high seas in quest of British shipping. In these measures, it is said, he was supported by an opposition party, or as it began to be called, the Democratic party, which now undertook, under the direct management of Genet and in imitation of the associated parties in France, to form democratic societies throughout the United States. At the desire of President Washington the

French minister was superseded. In 1794 Genet married Cornelia Tappan, daughter of Gov. George Clinton, and settled on a farm, at Jamaica, L. I. In March, 1810, his wife died, after which, he took up his residence in the town of Greenbush, now East Greenbush, where he purchased a farm and lived for the most part of his life until the day of his death. His residence was known as Prospect hill, and was south of a small stream called Mill brook, in district No. 1, and west of the Boston and Albany railroad. The Genet homestead is now owned and occupied as a summer residence by Nelson Davenport of Troy. In 1814 Genet married his second wife, Martha Brandon Osgood. In 1816 he removed to New York, but returned to his farm in Greenbush in 1818. Ex-Minister Genet was taken sick on July 3, 1834, in consequence of getting wet in a rain while going to attend a meeting of an agricultural society of which he was president, and before which he was to deliver an address. His illness continued until the 14th of the month, when, at 10 o'clock in the evening, he died.

THE TOMB OF GENET.

In the burial ground in the rear of the Dutch church in East Greenbush is the grave of ex-Minister Genet. The slab which marks his grave bears the following inscription :

Under this Humble Stone are interred the remains of Edmund Charles Genet, Late Adjutant-General, Minister Plenipotentiary And Consul-General from the French Republic to the United States of America. He was born at Versailles, Parish of St. Louis, in France, Jan. 8, 1763, and died at Prospect Hill, Town of Greenbush, July 14, 1834. Driven by the storms of the revolution to the shades of retirement, he devoted his talents to his adopted country, where he cherished the love of liberty and virtue. The pursuits of literature and science enlivened his peaceful solitude, and he devoted his life to usefulness and benevolence. His last moments were, like his life, an example of fortitude and true Christian philosophy. His heart was love and friendship's sun, which has set on this transitory world to rise with radiant splendor beyond the grave.

By the side of his grave are the tombs of his two wives.

THE UNITED STATES CANTONMENT.

In the month of May, 1812, the United States government purchased about 300 acres of land, one mile and a half east of the village of Greenbush, for the purpose of using it as a military post, for the organization of recruited men into regiments, for service in the war against Great Britain then existing. The persons conveying the tract of land to the government were Henry Ward, Thomas Leg-

gett, James Thompson, Samuel Danton and James Head. After the purchase had been made it was discovered that an exclusive title had not been obtained to the property. A deed, however, was some time afterward given by Stephen Van Rensselaer, which secured the full right of the land to the United States. Maj.-Gen. Dearborn, the commandant of the post, began at once the erection of the necessary buildings. Eight frame buildings, known as the barracks, each 252x22 feet, two stories high, with basements, were erected, four on each side of the parade ground, which occupied a space of half a mile in width. Four buildings, 90 feet in length, two stories high, for officers' quarters, were also built, on opposite sides of the parade ground. Two large buildings for the use of the commissary department, a fire proof arsenal, built of brick, three large structures, two stories high and 90 feet long, for the general's headquarters, hospital and medical departments were erected on an eminence commanding a view of the surrounding country. Other buildings for shelter for men, horses and cattle were constructed upon the ample grounds of this large farm.

RIDING IN THE WHIRLIGIG.

It is said that the commanding general was a man of many eccentricities. To him is attributed, perhaps, without any authoritative proof, the construction of an instrument of punishment called a whirligig. It was a rudely-made box or cage, faced with slats, that could be revolved with rapidity around an upright post that passed through it. The person to be punished for the commission of an offense was put in it, his hands being first secured to the upper part of the box, which was whirled around the post. The exposed position of the offender thus being punished, it is said, never failed to attract the idle crowd of hangers-on about the cantonment. The rapid revolutions of the box soon, it is said, caused extreme giddiness, and prevented the person subjected to this punishment from retaining an upright position, but who was kept from falling by the firm fastening which retained his hands.

The Greenbush cantonment, had accommodations for over 4,000 troops. The elevated position of the camp, sometimes called "Mount Madison," was thought at first to be a very healthy one; but during the first year much sickness occurred. After the treaty of peace of 1815, very few soldiers were stationed at the post, and finally, on May 2, 1831, the property was sold by the government to Hathorn McCulloch of Albany, who made the place his residence until his death. The property in 1843 was

divided, one part of which is the now the property of William A. McCulloch, son of Hathorn McCulloch, and the remainder is retained by the latter's grandchildren, William H. Kirtland, Albert B. Kirtland and Mrs. A. G. Genet.

THE TOWN OF CLINTON.

The town of East Greenbush was first known by the name of Clinton. The board of supervisors of Rensselaer county, in answer to a petition of more than 12 freeholders of the town of Greenbush, granted the erection of the town of Clinton, on the 23d of February, 1855. Following the description of the boundaries of the town of North Greenbush, which was erected at the same time, are the following words describing the limits of the town of Clinton:

All the remaining part of the town of Greenbush, excepting that part thereof embraced within the present limits of the village of Greenbush, and bounded northerly by the southern boundary line of said village and the southern boundary line of the above-named town of North Greenbush, hereby erected; easterly and southerly by the present easterly and southerly boundary lines, respectively, of the town of Greenbush; and westerly by the present westerly boundary line of the town of Greenbush, and the easterly boundary line of said village, is hereby erected and constituted a new and separate town by the name of Clinton.

The first annual meeting in the said town of Clinton hereby erected shall be held at the house of William R. Defreest, in East Greenbush, in said town of Clinton hereby erected. Said [meeting] shall be held on the first Tuesday of April, 1855, and annually thereafter, at such places as a majority of the electors of said [town] * * * shall determine. * * * Frederick R. Rockefeller, John J. Sliter and Philip L. Rysedorph, three electors of said town of Clinton hereby erected, are hereby designated, whose duty it shall be to preside at the first annual meeting in the respective town as aforesaid, appoint a clerk, open and keep the polls, and exercise the same powers as justices of the peace when presiding at town meetings.

THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

The first annual town meeting, as ordered, was held at the place appointed, on April 3, 1855. The following persons were selected officers of the town of Clinton:

Supervisor, Frederick R. Rockefeller; town clerk, William R. De Freest; assessors, Barney Hoes, David De Freest, Jr., Martin D. De Freest; commissioner of highways, David Phillips; overseers of the poor, Adam Dings, John W. Craver; justices of the peace, Andrew L. Wetherwax, Frederick Rockefeller, Thomas B. Simmons, William Holsapple; superintendent of common schools, Henry J. Genet; collector, Harris N. Elliot; constables, Henry Ostrander, Frederick B. Conkey, Jacob Earing, Harris N. Elliot; inspectors

of election, A. B. Kirtland, Leonard L. Rysedorph; poundmasters, John W. Craver, W. R. De Freest, Peter G. Clark.

The act to change the name of the town of Clinton, in the county of Rensselaer, to that of East Greenbush, was passed April 14, 1858.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

For some time previous to the organization of the Methodist Episcopal church of the village of East Greenbush in 1875, the people of this denomination had been in the habit of assembling together in private houses for religious worship. The first regular pastor of this church was the Rev. Joseph Zweifel, who served from 1875-77; the Rev. J. S. Bridgeford, 1877-1878; 1878 to date the Rev. Charles W. Rowley. The

society possesses a very commodious church in the village of East Greenbush.

THE VILLAGE OF EAST GREENBUSH.

The only village in the town is that of East Greenbush, which is situate very near the middle of the southern boundary line of the town. The present population of the village is 101 persons. Twenty-five houses comprise the number of buildings in the village. There are two churches, one hotel, one store, one blacksmith shop and one paint shop in the place. A postoffice was established here, February 23, 1855.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

1855.....	1,606	1870.....	1,845
1860.....	1,607	1875.....	2,083
1865.....	1,663	1880.....	2,127

CHAPTER VII.

THE TOWN OF NORTH GREENBUSH.

A PART OF PAFRAETS DAEL — DICKOP'S HOUSE ON THE HUDSON — THE FIRST SETTLERS OF THE TERRITORY — BATH TO RIVAL BALLSTON — ERECTION OF THE TOWN OF NORTH GREENBUSH — THE VILLAGES OF THE TOWN — SKETCHES OF THE CHURCHES AND NEWSPAPERS — THE POPULATION.

Rural life, pictured in the thoughtful, melancholy utterances of Gray, in his "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard," has filled many a heart with the quiet beauty and unassumed attractions of its sober surroundings. The humble, laborious men who have tilled, sown seed, and harvested during the long centuries since Adam left Eden need no grander tribute than the immortal verse of the poet to enhance the part they took in the world's work :

" Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,
 Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke;
 How jocund did they drive their teams afield!
 How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,
 Their homely joys, and destiny obscure."

THE HOUSE OF THE LOGGERHEAD.

That part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck now embraced in the territory of the town of North Greenbush was, in 1630, according to the designations on the map of Gillis Van Schendel, known as the southern portion of Pafraets dael. A little south of the kill which is immediately north of Defreestville, running westward to the river, was the marked position of a rudely built hut, known as *Dickop's huis*, — the loggerhead's house. In the river, opposite it, were three islands, called "Bloemaert's Eylanden." These islands, which still remain, extending southward from the mouth of the Wynant's kill, were in 1773 known by the names of Bricker's, Flatt's and Schuyler islands, as shown on a map made that year by Robert Yates.

Being so near the river and situated at the foot of the steep hills, it may be conjectured

that *Dickop's huis* was the hut of some Indian who, in 1630, was friendly to the Dutch settlers, and who on account of his obtuseness had received the name of thick-skull, or loggerhead.

THE NAMES OF THE FIRST SETTLERS.

The territory of North Greenbush being upland, or elevated above the river, along the shores of which it juts out in bold declivitous ridges, is dissociated from all the uses made of such a navigable stream, except at Bath-on-the-Hudson, where the hill is more distant eastwardly, and a wider tract of lowland extends for some distance, southwardly and northwardly. The soil is somewhat sandy, mixed with clay, and is well adapted for agricultural uses. The greater number of its first settlers occupied farms in this section of the manor of Rensselaerwyck as early as the year 1670. A century afterwards about a score of homesteads diversified the landscape, and nearly the entire portion of the land was under cultivation. Opposite the patroon's house, which was on the western side of the river, a road ran from the river eastwardly toward Sandlake. Where it terminated at the river was a ferry, which transported the wagons and sleighs bearing the annual ground rents of grain, wood and fowls of the farmers to the west side, where were the patroon's great storehouses.

On the map of the manor of Rensselaerwyck made by John R. Bleeker, in 1767, appear the designated sites of the early farm-houses within this territory. South of the road running from the river eastwardly toward Sandlake, and west of the one running northwardly toward the site of Troy, was the home of Widow Min-

bert Van Eiveren. On the other side of the road and north of this farm-house was that of Juria Sharp. West of the north road and northward of Juria Sharp's house was the home of Reinier Van Alstyne. More to the north of it, and near the river, was the farm-house of John Crannel. Eastward of it, and on the west side of the north road were the homes of Marte and Philip Deforest. On the opposite side of the road was the house of David Deforest. Beyond it to the north was the house of Rutger Van Den Bergh, and north of it that of Cornelis M. Van Buren. West of the north road and south of the Wynants-kill was the farm-house of Philip Wendell. South of the Sandlake road was the house of Lawrence Rysdorp, and north of it those of Edward Hogg, Wilhelmus Van Deussen and John Fondas. These early settlers are still represented by the families of the DeFreests, Van Denberghs, Van Alstynes, Fondas, Wendells and others, which in most instances dwell in the old homesteads of their ancestors. In the history of the town the male members of nearly all of them have, from time to time, been conspicuous, representing with fidelity and honor offices in the churches, town and districts. Among the peculiarities of family names, perhaps, there is no other national characteristic so apparent as that manifested by the Dutch in the changefulness of the orthography of surnames. It is often difficult, during a long period of years, to put together the connecting links of a family's history on this account, and no little trouble is given, when a writer finds so many variations existing in the modes of spelling individual names.

BATH IN 1800.

Before the close of the last century the wonderful efficacy of the waters of several mineral springs at Bath had made the little hamlet somewhat conspicuous as a place of cure. John Maude, an English traveler, visiting places of note in the United States, in 1800, thus speaks of its notoriety, in his journal, dated Monday, June 30, of that year:

Crossed the river to Bath, a town lately laid out by the patroon; it at present consists of about thirty houses, but it is very doubtful if its further progress will be so rapid. The medicinal springs and the baths, at one time so much vaunted, are now shut up and neglected; yet, as a watering place, it was to have rivaled Ballstown, and as a trading place, Lansingburgh and Troy.

A country girl returning from market, (who crossed the ferry at the same time,) spoke Dutch and English with equal fluency, and I may add with equal pertness. Climbed the heights east of Bath; fine view of the river and of Troy. Re-

turned by the lower or Greenbush ferry. Never saw the wild grape and wild strawberry vines in greater profusion; in the coppice near the river scarcely a tree that did not support one of the former; or a field that was not overrun by the latter. This ramble was a very wild and a very pleasant one; the air bracing and refreshing, and highly perfumed with the fragrance of wild roses and red clover. White clover is a native of this country; the red is, I believe, an exotic, though it is now to be found in a wild state all over this part of the country, even in the woods. The birds, I noticed, were boblincolns, brown thrashers and robins.

THE ERECTION OF NORTH GREENBUSH.

The erection of the town of North Greenbush from a portion of the town of Greenbush was due to "an application having been made to the board of supervisors of the county of Rensselaer by 12 freeholders and upwards of the town of Greenbush, in said county, praying for a division of said town and the erection of two towns therefrom." This petition was granted by the board of supervisors on the 23d of February, 1855. The boundaries of the town as fixed upon were as follows:

By a line beginning at a point in the western boundary line of the present town of Greenbush, and at the northwest corner of the chartered limits of the village of Greenbush, and running along the northern line of said chartered limits to the northeast corner of said limits; then on a straight line eastwardly to the south side of the dwelling house of J. Pruyn Van Allen; thence eastwardly on a straight line to the south side of the dwelling house of John P. DeFreest; thence on a straight line eastwardly to the south side of the present dwelling house of George J. Sharpe; thence on a straight line eastwardly to a point in the eastern boundary line of the town of Greenbush and the western boundary of the town of Sandlake, which said point is distant about eight chains and eighty links southerly from the centre of a road or public highway leading to the Albany and Sandlake plankroad, past the late dwelling house of Peleg Thomas, and where his widow now resides—which said line shall be the southern boundary of a new town hereby erected; and the eastern and western boundary lines of said town shall be and remain such parts of the present eastern and western boundary lines respectively of the present town of Greenbush as lie northwardly of the points in said eastern and western boundary lines respectively, where the same are respectively intersected by said southern boundary line of the aforesaid new town. And the northern boundary line of the town of Greenbush shall be and remain the northern boundary line of said new town, and all the territory lying within the boundaries above named is hereby erected and constituted a new and separate town by the name of North Greenbush. . . .

The first annual meeting in the said town of North Greenbush hereby erected shall be held in

the house of John Mason, in Blooming Grove, in said town of North Greenbush. * * * Said [meeting] shall be held on the first Tuesday of April, 1855, and annually thereafter, at such places as a majority of the electors of said [town] * * * shall determine according to law. And Henry Frazee, William Witbeck and James Dearstyne, three electors of said town of North Greenbush hereby erected, * * * are hereby designated whose duty it shall be to preside at the first annual meeting in their * * * town as aforesaid, appoint a clerk, open and keep the polls and exercise the same powers as justices of the peace when presiding at town meetings.

THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

In accordance with the action of the board of supervisors, the first town meeting was held on Tuesday, April 3, 1855. The following persons were elected officers of the town of North Greenbush:

Supervisor, Abram Witbeck; town clerk, Garret Vanderburgh; assessor, Philip L. De Freest; commissioners of highways, Rinier M. De Freest, Matthew V. A. Fonda, Francis E. Ritchie; justices of the peace, Barney Wendell, Abram Witbeck; overseers of the poor, Cornelius Dubols, John G. Sharp; collector, David D. De Freest; superintendent of common schools, Sanford A. Tracy; inspectors of election, first district, John Fonda, John W. Vandenberg, George W. Green; (appointed), second district, Andrew V. Barringer, Alonzo N. Kinney, James Henderson, (appointed); constables, David H. Wyland, Chauncey I. Wendell, David S. Wendell, Harmon Snyder, Barney Cole; sealer of weights and measures, John B. Marble; poundmasters, John Mason and H. Ferguson.

VILLAGES.

The village of Bath-on-the-Hudson received its name from several mineral springs discovered in its immediate vicinity during the latter part of the last century. So great was considered their importance that wide publicity was given to the remarkable properties of the water flowing from them, and bath houses for invalids were erected in close proximity to them. In Spofford's gazetteer of the state of New York, 1824, the village is described as being one mile from Greenbush. "It stands on the declivity of the dry, gravelly river hill, has some docks, stores, about 40 houses and an extensive tannery and some small business in trade. The eastern turnpike extends from Bath through Sandlake and Berlin to Williamstown, in the state of Massachusetts."

The tannery referred to was that of James and John Woods, on the northwest corner of Broadway and Tracy street.

The present population of the village is about 2,150 inhabitants. The ferry which connects

the village with the north part of Albany is operated by Fitchet & Smith.

The fire department is represented by two companies, one, the W. S. Hevenor protectives, organized in 1876, and the other, the A. L. Hotchkiss hook and ladder company, formed in 1874.

INCORPORATION OF BATH-ON-THE-HUDSON.

Bath-on-the-Hudson was incorporated by an act of the legislature, passed May 5, 1874, bounded as follows:

Beginning at a point on the east shore of the Hudson river (at low water mark), where the north line of the town of Greenbush intersects the said river; and running thence from said point along the said north line of said town of Greenbush, south, 59 degrees 40 minutes east, about 2,080 feet to the centre of Quackendary kill (in this line there are two stone monuments set in the ground, one on the west side of Broadway, and one on the brow of the hill west of the said Quackendary kill, to indicate the direction of the line); thence up and along the centre of said Quackendary kill, and the most westerly branch thereof, to a stone monument set in the ground, and which said stone monument bears south, 16 degrees 45 minutes west, 140 feet from a stone monument set in the ground on the north side of the Albany and Sandlake plank-road; thence north, 16 degrees 45 minutes east, 145 feet to said stone monument on the north side of said Albany and Sandlake plank-road; and thence south 88 degrees 30 minutes west, about 1,191 feet to a stone monument in the centre of the gateway at the entrance to the grounds of P. S. Forbes; thence north, 21 degrees 25 minutes east, about 406 feet to a stone monument; thence north, 40 degrees 30 minutes west, about 1,700 feet to the Hudson river; thence westerly, and at right angles to the shore of said Hudson river, until such line meets the channel of said river; thence down and along the said channel (and which line is the westerly boundary of the county of Rensselaer) until a line drawn westerly and at right angles to the shore of said river from the place of beginning shall intersect said channel; and thence from said point easterly to the place of beginning; and containing, exclusive of said river, about 250 acres, as surveyed by L. D. Eddy and others, and the courses taken as the magnetic needle now points, comprising a part of the town of North Greenbush, in the county of Rensselaer and state of New York, to be known and distinguished as the village of Bath-on-the-Hudson.

WYNANTSILL.

The hamlet of Wynantskill is in the north-east part of the town, on a small stream of water from which it derives its name. In 1824 it is spoken of as having about 35 buildings and a church in it. It became a post village about the year 1820; Dr. Asaph Clark being the first postmaster. Wynantskill has now a

population of about 300 inhabitants, 50 houses, two churches, two hotels, one store, three blacksmith shops, three carriage shops, one harness and one shoemaker shop.

DEFREESTVILLE.

Defreestville, named in honor of the De Freest or DeForest family, is in the southern part of the town. It is also known by the name of Blooming Grove. The present population numbers about 115 persons. There are 26 houses, 1 church, two hotels, 1 blacksmith shop, 1 shoemaker shop and 1 wagonmaker shop in the place. A postoffice was established here about a half century ago.

THE REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH OF WYNANTSKILL.

This religious society was organized about the year 1793. On May 17, 1824, at a meeting of the consistory of the church, Andrew Finch, John Coonradt, John P. Clapper and Frederick G. Barrenger, elders, and Henry Frazee, Frederick Barrenger, Francis Bradt and James Westfall, assumed the name of the "Mini ter, elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of Wynantskill." The church has about 100 members.

A second Dutch Reformed church, an outgrowth of the former society, was organized about 15 years ago, and has a neat house of worship.

THE DUTCH CHURCH OF BLOOMING GROVE.

On the 26th day of December, 1814, the Dutch church of Blooming Grove was formed. In the certificate of incorporation Matthew Van Alstyne, Guysbert Van Denbergh, Leonard Rysdorp and Samuel Earing, elders, and Martin DeFreest, William Crannel, William W. Van Denbergh and John P. Witbeck, deacons, certify that they took the name of "the Dutch church of Blooming Grove, in the town of Greenbush." The house of worship of this congregation, in Defreestville, is a very neat and commodious building.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTH GREENBUSH.

This society was established by the Albany Baptist missionary union, which erected the first building used by it as a place of worship. The First Baptist church of North Greenbush was organized January 6, 1806, in the mission building on the corner of Ferry and First streets, in Bath. The Rev. William F. Benedict became the first pastor of the congregation in January, 1806. In 1871 the first frame building was torn down, and a second frame structure erected on its site, which

was destroyed by fire, January 21, 1874. A third frame building was erected in 1875, on the corner of First and Church streets, which was dedicated February 18, 1875, the services being conducted by the Rev. A. Waterbury, the Rev. John Love, the Rev. Frank Rodgers Morse, the Rev. D. M. Reeves, D. D., the Rev. C. W. Bridgeman, D. D., and the Rev. J. L. Ray, pastor. The building cost \$10,000, and has a seating capacity for 400 persons. The present membership numbers about 175 persons. The following are the terms of the different pastors of the congregation: The Rev. Wm. F. Benedict, January, 1806, to January, 1869; the Rev. J. W. Hammond, November, 1869 to September, 1870; the Rev. Wm. H. Donward, September, 1871 to August, 1872; the Rev. J. L. Ray, September, 1873, to September, 1877; the Rev. R. N. Van Doren, the present pastor, from April 1, 1878.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF BATH.

The organization of the Methodist Episcopal church of Bath was due to the active and successful efforts of the Albany Methodist Sunday school union about the year 1867. The Rev. A. A. Farr in 1868, and the Rev. Louis A. Beaudry in 1869, were the first missionary pastors of this congregation. The present membership of the church is about 150 persons.

THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH OF BATH.

This society was organized in Bath about the year 1872 by the Rev. A. Burdick. A neat frame church edifice was erected in 1874 on Second avenue, at a cost of \$300, which has about 150 seats. The Rev. Aaron Burdick is the present pastor of the church.

NEWSPAPERS.

The *Bath Sun* was first published May 1, 1874, by William H. Westfall. John D. Houghtaling succeeded him in the ownership of the paper, April 1, 1876. The publication of the paper was discontinued August 1, 1879.

The *East Albany News*, which was first issued October 16, 1875, and changed in October, 1876, to the *Greenbush Democrat*, was established by John D. Houghtaling, the publisher of the *Bath Sun*.

The *Evening Star*, still published at Bath, was first issued in March, 1873, by C. F. R. Coe & Co. publishers. The paper is now known as the *Evening Star and Schoharie Sentinel*, and is edited and owned by C. F. R. Coe.

THE FORBES MANOR HOUSE.

The manor house, north of Bath, was built about the year 1839 by William P. Van Rensse-

laer, the son of the patroon of the east part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck. In August, 1850, Paul S. Forbes of New York city purchased the property for \$62,500.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF NORTH GREEN-BUSH.

1855.....	1,812	1870.....	3,056
1860.....	2,150	1875.....	3,009
1865.....	2,575	1880.....	4,221

CHAPTER VIII.

THE TOWN OF SCHAGHTICOKE.

THE RETREAT OF THE NEW ENGLAND INDIANS—PLANTING OF THE TREE OF PEACE—A PUZZLING ORTHOGRAPHY—THE PATENT OBTAINED BY ALBANY—THE SETTLERS OF THE EIGHT SCHAGHTICOKE PLANTATIONS—PEOPLE OF THE VALLEY OF PEACE MASSACRED—INTERESTING INCIDENTS OF THE REVOLUTION—HOMESTEAD OF THE KNICKERBACKERS—ITS CURIOUS COLLECTION OF HEIRLOOMS—THE STORY ABOUT OLD TOM—THE CHURCHES OF SCHAGHTICOKE POINT—MANUFACTORIES AT HART'S FALLS—POPULATION.

The pioneer life of the settlers of the territory of the upper Hudson has been nowhere more attractively surrounded with so many peculiar circumstances than on that portion of the province of New York now known as the town of Schaghticoke, in the county of Rensselaer. The great wilderness north of Albany with its darkly-foliaged woods, sequestered lakes and serpentine water-courses, was looked upon as a land of fatness by the acquisitive Hollanders who had emigrated to America in the latter part of the seventeenth century. Fearlessly they ventured with their households into the isolating depths of this vast forest-covered country and with industrious hands built themselves homes, where for a long time came only hunting bands of game-seeking Indians. To these they gave shelter and hospitable welcome, which friendly kindnesses were amicably honored for many years by the wild men, as the aborigines were called by the Dutch people.

THE SCHAGHTICOKE INDIANS.

The small band of Indians found occupying this part of the country was a remnant of that body of red men which Philip, the son of Massasoit, had commanded during the bloody and brief struggle known as King Philip's war, waged against the New England settlers, during the years 1675 and 1676. Being driven from place to place by the enraged settlers, the Pequods sought safety by removing westward to the east bank of the Hudson.

Speaking of these Indians, Cadwallader Colden, in his history of the five Indian nations, 1747, says that after the English got possession of the country of New Netherland, "the greatest number of the inhabitants of the province of New York being Dutch, still retained an affection for their mother country, and by their aversion to the English weakened the administration. The common people of Albany, who are all Dutch, could not not forbear giving the Indians some ill impressions of the English; for the Mohawks, in one of their publick speeches, expressed themselves thus:

"We hear a Dutch prince reigns now in England, why do you suffer the English soldiers to remain in the fort? Put all the English out of the town. When the Dutch held this country long ago we lay in their houses; but the English have always made us lie without doors."

"The people of New England were engaged in a bloody war at this time with the Owenagungas, Ouragies and Ponacocks, the Indians that lie between them and the French settlements. The Sealkooks were originally part of these Indians. They left their country about the year 1672, and settled above Albany, on the branch of Hudson's river that runs toward Canada. The people of New England were jealous of the Sealkook Indians, that they remembering the old difference they had with the people of New England, and the relations they bore to the eastern Indians, did countenance and assist these

Indians in the war against New England. They had reason for these jealousies, for the Seahkook Indians received privately some Owenagunga messengers, and kept their coming among them secret from the people of Albany; and some Seahkooks had gone privately to the Owenagungas. They were afraid, likewise, that the Mohawks might have some inclination to favor those Indians because some of the eastern Indians had fled to the Mohawks, and were kindly received by them and lived among them."

THE TREE OF PEACE.

The most conspicuous object which still marks the old Indian council ground at Schaghticoke, is the famous tree of peace planted more than two centuries ago. Its wide spreading branches covering an acre of ground and its immense trunk, 22 feet in diameter, place it among the few old landmarks that remain to indicate the places of interesting occurrences in the early days of the settlement of this country. When Richard, the earl of Bellmont, was governor of the province of New York, in 1700, the Indians living on the east banks of the Hudson in their address to him, thus spoke of the event which the tree of peace commemorates:

It is now six and twenty years since we were almost dead when we left New England and were first received into this government; then it was that a tree was planted at Schakkook whose branches is spread that there is a comfortable shade under the leaves of it: we are unanimously resolved to live and dye under the shadow of that Tree, and pray our Father to nourish and have a favorable aspect towards that Tree, for you need not apprehend that tho' any of our people goe out a hunting they will look out for another Country, since they like that place call'd Schakkook so well.

In another address to Lieut. Gov. John Nanfan in 1701, they said:

We are now two hundred fighting men belonging to this county of Albany, from Katskill to Schakkook, and hope to increase in a year's time to three hundred.

July 20, 1702, the following is given as their number: "110 Indians at Schackcock; 87 below ye towne; in all, 197 fighting men."

In an answer made by the River Indians to his excellency, Edward Lord Cornbury, governor of New York, July 20, 1702, they further related the particulars of the planting of the tree:

About twenty-six years agoe Sir Edmund Andros, then Governor of this Province, planted a Tree of welfare at Schakkook and invited us to come and live there, which we very luckily complied withall, and we have had the good fortune ever since that we have increased that Tree and ye very leaves thereof are grown hard and strong, the Tree is grown so thick of leaves and bows that

ye sun can scarcely shine throw it, yea the fire itself cannot consume it, (meaning that they are now so strong that they do not much fear ye enemy), and we now desire that our Father Corlaer may strengthen that Tree and cause ye leaves to grow so thick that no sunn at all may shine throw it.

A SPECIMEN OF PHONETIC SPELLING.

In the early days of our country's history there was no apparent uniform way of spelling proper names, and every writer, it seems, adopted a mode of phonetic orthography best suited to his individual purpose. The following are some of the early forms in which the name of Schaghticoke, as now written, was spelled:

Scaticoke, Scaaticook, Seachkook, Seaghticook, Seaticook, Schachtacook, Schackhook, Schackoooke, Schachhook, Schaggkooke, Schaghticoke, Schakhook, Schaticoke, Schantecoque, Shaakkooke, Skaahkook, Schahtecogue, Schackcook, Skachhook, Schachhook, Skackhook, Schackkook, Schackooke and Schaghticoke.

There have been a number of fanciful interpretations given to the word, but as the true orthography of it has never been determined it would be more pertinent to the subject first to establish its derivation.

ALBANY PERMITTED TO PURCHASE LAND.

Besides granting unto individuals the right to acquire land by purchase from the Indians, permission was also given, as will be seen, to corporations, such as those of cities, to obtain the same. What is known as the patent of Albany, dated July 22, 1686, obtained from Gov. Thomas Dongan, allowed that city to secure from the Indian owners a tract of land at Schaghticoke, containing 500 acres. It reads as follows:

And I do by these presents give and grant unto the said mayor, aldermen and commonalty of the city of Albany and their successors, full liberty and license at their pleasure, to purchase from the Indians the quantity of 500 acres of low or meadow land, lying at a certain place called or known by the name of Schahtecogue, which quantity of 500 acres shall, and may be, in what part of Schahtecogue, or land adjacent, as they, the said mayor, aldermen and commonalty of the city of Albany shall think most convenient.

Gov. Fletcher, March 29, 1693, granted a patent to Hendrick Van Rensselaer, which permitted him to purchase from the Indians a tract of land "by Schakkook's creek," and extending easterly from Hudson's river, six English miles. As the latter grant embraced a portion of the land desired by the city of Albany, the two parties entered into an agreement August 2, 1698, whereby Hendrick Van Rensselaer con-

veyed his patent for a consideration to the city of Albany, August 8, 1699.

THE INDIANS SELL THEIR LAND.

The Indians at Schaghticoke being persuaded by the authorized parties representing the city of Albany to convey to the corporation a tract of land, did so, as is shown by the minutes of the proceedings of the mayor, aldermen and commonalty of Albany, February 28, 1706-7:

Whereas ye Commonalty have Lately Resolved to send to Mashahaes and other Indian owners of ye land & woodland Caled Shaaktekook to ye End that ye Comonality might agree & purchase the same for ye Behoofe of ye City in order thereto ye sd Indians doe here appear, vitz Mashahaes & Machatawe who after some time Spent in making an agreeemnt the said Mashahaes & Machatawe for themselves & on ye behalfe of Caemskaeck aesiah quauch Jan Coneel Schachampe Tassawampe and Ahautowanit Indian owners and native proprietors of ye Sd lands & woodlands have sold & transported ye sd land Scituate on ye East side of hudson's River above ye half-moon Commonly Caled Schaahkook is bounded on ye west side by ye sd river on ye south side of ye bounds Eghbt Tunise & Barent albertse bratt & Runns northwarde along the said River side to ye End of two miles from Schaahkooks Creeke and Striks from thence into ye woods by an East line twelve miles and on the South Side by a South east line 14 miles or so much further that ye line on ye East side doth Comprehend and take in ye third Carryeing place on ye said Schaahkooks Creek which Carryeing place is the outmost bounds of sd Schaahkook lands Eastward as by Conveyance bearing Even date herewith may more fully appear, whereof is yt to be paid in June next unto ye sd Mashahaes, etc 2 blankets, 12 duffel coats, 20 shirts 2 guns, twelve pounds poudre, 36 pounds of Lead, 8 gallons of Rom, 2 Casks Beer, 2 Rolls Tobacco, 10 gallons Medera wine & some pypes, and moreover yearly to be paid and delivered unto ye sd Indian Mashahaes or his heirs in ye month off Octobr during the Space of ten years commencing from ye day, 1 blanket 1 shirt 1 pair stockings 1 Lapp, 1 Kezz Rom 3 pounds poudre 6 pounds Lead 12 pounds Tobacco and that a writtinger shall be given to ye sd Masahaes for about 12 acres of Low Land on shaahkook at such place as ye Commonalty shall lay it out & that ye same must be Laid & Kept in fence at ye Charge of ys City on occasion so that ye sd Mashahaes & his heirs may Cultivate & make use thereof for ever & none other by his or there meanes unlesse he or they shall first have deposed of this priviledge unto ye Mayr Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty for ye behoofe of ye sd City which writterings is as followith: etc.

EIGHT PLANTATIONS CONVEYED TO SETTLERS.

In order to secure the settlement of the land thus purchas'd from the Indians the tract was

to be divided into eight parts, "containing each five and twenty morgen or fifty acres of low land under the hill by the said Sachteekook creek, and five morgen or ten acres of upland towards the said hill, all adjoining together."

It was provided that "if any person or persons who shall farm any of the said plantations containing altogether two hundred morgens or four hundred acres of low land towards the said hill and forty morgens or eighty acres of upland as aforesaid shall together divide the said eight plantations as equal as they shall or may agree among themselves."

Each plantation which was conveyed by indenture given September 1, 1708, was leased for £15 current money, and after the expiration of six years "two schepel of good winter wheat off of each morgen or two acres" was also to be paid yearly forever. Buildings were to be erected and improvements made three years after the date of the conveyances.

These plantations were disposed of on July 10, 1708, as shown by the minutes of the common council of Albany:

The Commonalty Seeing yt here are twenty persons willing Each to have a Plantation of Sachteekook on ye aforesd Conditions, ordered ye Clerk to write Eight Billets for ye Eight Plantations and twelf Billets Blank and to Let them all draw, wh they accordingly did out of Mr. Mayor hatt and they that gett ye Billett to have a Plantation were these vitz.

DANIEL KETELHUYN,
JOHS CUYLER,
JOHS HARMENSE [VISCHER],
JOHS D. WANDLAER, JUNR.,
BARENT GERRITSE,
CORNELIS VAN BEUREN,
KORSET VEDDER,
DIRK VAN DER HEYDEN.

On the 31st of August, 1708, it was resolved by the commonalty that a general indenture should be written and given unto the aforesaid eight persons.

OTHER EARLY SETTLERS.

Besides the disposal of the eight plantations to the persons already named, several others, it appears, were desirous of obtaining landed property at Schaghticoke. The following entry is in the proceedings of the common council, at Albany, dated January 8, 1708-9:

Petitions of Johs. Knickerbacker and dirk Van Vechten whereby they desire ye water Run on the hemacks kill at Schachteekook were a convenency may be found fit to erect a sawmill on together with a privilege to cut saw logs within ye City bound there for ye use of Such mill and also Ground needful were such mill shall be erected.

The conveyance by which the first-named petitioner became entitled to the possession of land at Schaghticoke is an indenture made the

thirteenth day of October, 1709, in the eighth year of the reign of Queen Anne, between Evert Baucker, mayor, and the commonalty of the city of Albany, of the first part, and Johannes Knickerbacker of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, miller, of the other part; the latter, for the sum of £16 10s., current money of New York, secured 30 morgens of land belonging to the city of Albany, being in two parcels, "at Schahtikook." This instrument is signed by the party of the second part in this manner: "J. K. Backer."

FREEHOLDERS AT SCHAGHTICOKE.

The following persons are named as freeholders in "Schaatkooke" in 1720: Samuel Doxie, Curset Fether [Korset Vedder?] Johannis Knickerbacker, Derrick Van Vechten, Johannis De Wandelaer, Simon Danielse [Ketelhuyn?], Martin Delamon [de La Mont?], Lewis Fele [Viele?], Daniel Ketlyne [Ketelhuyn?], Peter Winne, Adrian Quacumbus and Abram Fort.

Subsequently the following names of persons appear in conveyances and other papers as living at Schaghticoke: Sybrandt Van Schaick, Harme Knickerbacker, Johannis Groesbeeck, Daniel Fort, Isaac Fort, Gerrit Van Boumel, Dr. Nicholas Young, Abraham Beecker, Peter Viele, Peter Benoway, Simon De Freest, Lewis Van Antwerp, James Burris, Jacob Fort, Henry Van Beuren, Peter Yates, John Hansen, Caroll Toll, Cornelius W. Van Denbergh, Wynant Van Denbergh, Marte Winnie and Lewis Mago.

INDIAN BARBARITIES.

The peaceful valley of Schaghticoke, with its numerous farm-houses and cultivated fields, was, in the year 1746, invaded by French soldiery and bands of Indian allies. Many of the settlers, at the first intimation of the dangerous proximity of the approaching enemy, hastily forsook their homes and removed south to Albany and its neighborhood. A few of the more intrepid remained to see the ruthless foe devastate with fire and slaughter the once happy valley of peace. One of the darkest records of this hostile invasion of the French and Indians is that of the massacre and captivity of the members of the Kittle family. The narrative of the barbarous attack upon these settlers at Schaghticoke is briefly as follows: When the first intelligence of the bloody acts of the invaders in the more northern part of the province was received by Mr. Kittle, he persuaded his brothers then living near Fort Edward to make their homes with his family, which consisted of his wife, a young daughter about 14 years of age, and a young son. On the closer approach

was thought best by Mr. Kittle and his brothers, who had removed to Schaghticoke, to leave this threatened point and retire with the family to the city of Albany, as the neighbors had previously done. A number of Indians that was on apparently friendly terms with the Kittles seeing the preparations for departure going on, came to the house and endeavored to dissuade the inmates that they had no cause for fear, and should there be any danger they would apprise them in time to make their escape. In order to allay their apprehensions the Indians presented Mrs. Kettle with a belt of wampum in token of their friendship. It is said that notwithstanding this amicable show of good feeling on the part of the Indians, Mr. Kettle was still fearful of impending evil. On the day following the visit of the supposed friendly Indians, Mr. Kettle and his brother Peter left the house for a brief hunt in the neighboring woods. On their return, and when very near home, Peter shot a deer. Immediately upon the discharge of his gun they were confronted by two Indians, who fired at them their pieces, killing Mr. Kittle's brother. Mr. Kittle, aware of his dangerous surroundings, at once brought down one of the savages with a well-aimed shot, and with the butt of his gun struck the other senseless to the earth. Taking his brother's corpse upon his horse, he hurried home with the news of the menacing danger. He then hastened on horseback to the hamlet at Schaghticoke to procure the necessary conveyance for his family and household goods to Albany. Shortly after his departure, his house was surrounded by a party of Indians, who with fearful war-whoops, demanded an entrance at the closed door. They, however, soon with hellish fury entered the house, and with their bloody instruments of death murdered a second brother of Mr. Kittle and that brother's wife, in a most shocking manner. Mrs. Kittle and her brother-in-law Henry were permitted an escape from their bloody tomahawks, but the Kittle children were burned in the flames which consumed the house. On Mr. Kittle's return he found only the mangled and charred remains of the persons that lay in the smoking embers of his burned house. Uninformed of his wife's and brother's captivity, he mourned them as dead. Having endured all the horrors consequent upon the terrible ordeal through which they had passed, the captives at length arrived in Montreal. Here Mrs. Kittle found another married woman, Mrs. Bratt, who also had been taken prisoner by the Indians and French. For two years Mrs. Kittle was kindly cared for by sym-

pathizing women in Montreal, but all her endeavors to communicate with her mourning husband seemed fruitless. By good fortune, however, Mr. Kittle finally found his supposed murdered wife and brother, and heard the story of the massacre with all its distressing details.

During this calamitous time Herman Van Vechten, the son of Dirck Van Vechten, one of the first settlers of Schaghticoke, was also shot by the Indians, on the 25th of April, 1746.

For the purpose of protecting the farmers, who again returned to their despoiled farms, Gov. Clinton posted, in March, 1647, two companies of soldiers at Schaghticoke.

THE WAR OF 1755.

In 1755, a second war brought terror to the peace-loving settlers at Schaghticoke. Again the French and Indians invaded the country from Canada and drove the farmers along the upper Hudson to places of security in the vicinity of Albany. The heavy boards of a farm-house, some distance east of the Knickerbocker homestead, pierced with shots from the fort occupied by the French, are still preserved to show the marks of actual hostilities, in 1755, in that vicinity.

It was in consequence of these invasions that the common council of the city of Albany informed the general assembly, June 10, 1755, that the "corporation has no income from their tenants at Schagtekoek, who are all obliged to leave their farms, and are in a manner ruined, and this corporation is at least a thousand pounds indebted, occasioned by the last French war."

A SCHOOLMASTER ON HIS GOOD BEHAVIOR.

The cause of education, however, seems not to have been forgotten after the war's rude alarms. A school had been organized and a teacher employed to teach the children of the people gathered about the hamlet of Schaghticoke. His acquisitiveness is exhibited in his application to the city of Albany for a portion of land which was granted him during the time of his good behavior. This grant is entered in the proceedings of the common council:

JULY 8, 1762.—The schoolmaster at Schaagtekoek made application to this corporation for a piece of wood land, which they grant him so long a time as he remains schoolmaster for that place and behaves himself well, and no longer.

A MODEL COMMON COUNCIL.

As early as the year 1770 it had become a custom for the mayor and members of the common council of the city of Albany, to make annual visits to Schaghticoke for the purpose of attending to such matters as were connected with the occupancy of the lands belonging to

the corporation. These occasions at the time of their occurrence were no doubt attended with some inconvenience and expense, and the peculiar provision made to meet them, was certainly a most generous one.

This indenture made and concluded this 25th day of February, in the eleventh year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the third, etc., and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-one between the mayor, aldermen and commonality of the city of Albany of the one part and John Knickerbocker, jr., of Schatacoock in the county of Albany of the other part witnesseth, that the said mayor, aldermen and commonality of the city of Albany for and in consideration of the sum of five shillings current money of the province of New York. * * * convey all that certain piece or parcel of land lying and being at Schatacoock and begins at the mouth of Schatacoock creek, containing three hundred and fifty-nine acres.

This grant was to continue to the said John Knickerbocker, so long as he would supply and provide at his house the said authorities or any committee of the city of Albany, whenever they visited Schaghticoke, and during their stay there, with sufficient meat, drink and lodging, and their horses with good grain, hay or good pasture.

Among the duties imposed upon committees of the common council of Albany was the following:

FEBRUARY 11, 1775.—Three members are authorized and empowered to collect from their tenants at Schactekook the Fowles which are due and in arrear to the corporation.

SCHAGHTICOKE DISTRICT.

The general assembly of New York, March 24, 1772, passed "An act to divide the counties of Albany and Tryon into districts." The provisions of the act respecting that division of Albany county known by the name of Schactekoke district reads as follows:

All that part of the said county of Albany which is bounded as follows, to wit: On the south by Rensselaerwyck district; on the north by a line south 84° east, drawn from the mouth of Lewis's creek or kill, and on the east by a straight line drawn from a point in the north bounds of Rensselaerwyck district, 13 miles distant from Hudson's river, to a point in said line from the mouth of Lewis's creek or kill, at 10 miles distant from Hudson's river, and on the west by Hudson's river, shall be one separate and distinct district, and be henceforth called and known by the name of Schactekoke district.

REVOLUTIONARY PATRIOTS.

When the clouds of war lowered in 1775 over the American colonies there was found in the hearts of the people of Schaghticoke a spirit of

independence and a firm determination not to submit as slaves to British oppression. Col. John Knickerbacker, having been commissioned colonel October 20, 1775, was placed in command of the fourteenth regiment of state militia, composed of companies organized in the districts of Hoosick and Schaghticoke.

The following is the roster of the regiment, October 20, 1775:

Colonel, John Knickerbacker; lieutenant colonel, David Bratt; first major, Derrick Van Vechten; second major, John Van Rensselaer; adjutant, Charles H. Toll; quartermaster, Ignas Kip.

First Company—Captain, Henderick Vanderhoof; first lieutenant, Samuel Ketchum; second lieutenant, Nathaniel Ford; ensign, Jacob Hallenbeck.

Second Company—Captain, Walter N. Grovesbeck; first lieutenant, Wynant Vandenberg; second lieutenant, Peter Davenport; ensign, Jacob Yates.

Third Company—Captain, John J. Bleecker; first lieutenant, John Snyder; second lieutenant, Matthew D. Gamo; ensign, Stephen Thorn.

Fourth Company—Captain, Lewis Van Woerd; first lieutenant, John Schouten; second lieutenant, Joseph Boyce; ensign, John Morrel.

Fifth Company—Captain, Fenner Palmer; first lieutenant, John Johnson; second lieutenant, James Williamson; ensign, Jonathan Davis.

Sixth Company—Captain, Daniel B. Bratt; first lieutenant, Michael Campanian; second lieutenant, Isaac Lansing; ensign, Francis Hogle.

Seventh Company—Captain, — Van Rensselaer; first lieutenant, Michael Ryan; ensign, Peter Hartwell.

Minute Men—Captain, John J. Bleecker; first lieutenant, William Thorn; second lieutenant, Thomas Hicks; ensign, Jonathan Rowland.

These and other officers, with the men in the ranks, in doing the duties assigned them in the army of the North under Gens. Schuyler and Gates achieved a proud record which is still recalled in the traditions of the people of Schaghticoke.

Previous to the introduction of the militia of Schaghticoke into the stern realities of the war similar notices to the following were sent to the company commanders in the districts:

SCHAGHTICOKE, May 30, 1776.—Captain JOHN SYNDER, or the next Commanding Officer at Tomhanick. *Dear Sir:* By order of Gen. TenBroeck, it is now become my duty, as we do not know how soon the country may call upon us for military service, to earnestly recommend it unto you to use your utmost endeavor with the company under your command, as well as officers as privates, that they shall pay due obedience and strictly observe the rules and orders for regulating the militia of the colony of New York, recommended by the Provincial Congress, the 23d day of August, and the 20th day of December last; and, in particular, the 6th, 7th and 8th sections of said rules

and orders, and the fifth section of the appendix to the said rules and orders. If you or any of your officers have not the printed rules, they may be furnished them by applying unto Matthew Visler, esq., secretary of the committee for the city and county of Albany. And, also, I desire that you furnish me with a list of the company under your command by the 5th day of June next, and inform me in what manner the men are equipped as to arms, ammunition and accoutrements. I am your most truly humble servant.

JOHN KNICKERBACKER.

THE INVASION OF BURGOYNE.

When, in 1777, Burgoyne had reached the waters of the upper Hudson, the call for men to resist the advance of the British invader was immediately answered by the militia force of the district of Schaghticoke. As justly said by a patriotic member of the Knickerbacker family, in his centennial oration, July 4, 1876:

At the time of the engagement at Stillwater (more generally known as the battle of Saratoga), the hillsides surrounding the present quiet valley of old Schaghticoke were often the rendezvous, or resting-place, for the forces on their way to and from the scene of action, while the ancient fort or block-house, erected during the Indian incursions, was taken possession of by a troop of Hessian soldiery, in the service of the British, and who were not especially scrupulous in their maraudings upon the domains of the neighboring inhabitants.

While Burgoyne was tarrying on the banks of the Hudson previous to the battle of Bemis Heights, scouting parties ventured in search of information and secreted stores into the neighboring country. As the farmers had mostly deserted their homes, now and then, during this time, one or more men ventured back to them for the purpose of observation and intelligence. With this object in view it was that Major Derick Van Vechten with Solomon Acker crossed the Hudson. While they were guardedly gathering information they were fired upon by the enemy, when crossing the country in the fields now belonging to the farm of Jacob Yates. Shots were exchanged on both sides. Having several times been slightly wounded by the flying bullets, Major Van Vechten was at length mortally wounded by a ball passing through his tobacco box into his body. Confident of the danger of his companion, he persuaded Solomon Acker to flee and save his own life. Acker succeeded in escaping, and returned with a detachment of soldiers for the body of his dead neighbor. The perforated tobacco box is still preserved as a relic of the dark days of the revolution by the Van Vechten family.

A TERRIFIED WOMAN'S FLIGHT.

On the approach of the invading army of Burgoyne, Capt. John J. Bleecker, for the purpose of securing a temporary home for his alarmed family, hurried to Albany with that object in view. The day after his departure the news reached the ears of Mrs. Bleecker that massacring bands of Indians and plundering soldiers were within two miles of the hamlet of Schaghticoke. Wildly alarmed by this sudden intelligence, the frightened woman hastened, with her youngest child in her arms and another about four years old caught by the hand, in company with a young negro girl, down the road toward Albany, filled with the conveyances of other fleeing people. She walked in this way for about five miles, when her children were taken into one of the wagons passing southward. Having made the journey on foot, she at length arrived at Lansingburgh, "where she expected to find many friends, but she was deceived; no door was open to her whose house by many of them had been made use of as a home. She wandered from house to house, and at length obtained a place in the garret of a rich old acquaintance, where a couple of blankets stretched upon some bare boards were offered as a bed. She, however, sat up all night and wept, and the next morning Mr. Bleecker, coming from Albany, met them and returned to that city, from whence they set off with several other families by water."

Mrs. Bleecker, in 1781, was subjected a second time to a terrifying belief that her husband had been murdered by a party of hostile Indians. While taking in his harvest, he with two other men were captured and hurried off in the direction of Canada. Her husband not returning at the accustomed time to the house, she, fearing some evil, sent a servant to the field to bring her information, who came back telling her that the men were not to be found, but that the horses and wagons which they had been using were in the road, the horses being tied to a tree. The neighbors carefully searched the adjacent fields and woods, but the men could not be found. In her distressed condition Mrs. Bleecker, thinking her husband forever lost to her, that same night, started for Albany. But her mourning was turned into joy, for a few days afterward her husband was recovered from his captors by a party from Bennington.

ERECTION OF THE TOWN OF SCHAGHTICOKE.

The general assembly, March 7, 1788, passed "An act for dividing the counties of this state into towns." It was by this act that the town

of Schaghticoke was erected. The bounds of the town were the following:

All that part of said county of Albany bounded southerly by the said town of Rensselaerwyck, westerly by Hudson's river, northerly by a line beginning at the mouth of Lewis's creek or kill, and running from thence south 81° east to Hudson's river, and easterly and southerly by a line running from thence down along Hosick river as it runs to the place where Toll's bridge formerly stood, and then due south to the road leading from St. Hoick to Albany, and then along the same road to the north bounds of Rensselaerwyck, shall be and hereby is erected into a town by the name of Schaateoke.

The first town officers elected under this act, as entered in the records of the town, were the following:

Record of town officers chosen on the seventh and eighth of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine, at the house of John Carpenter:

Town clerk, Silas Wickes; supervisor, Jacob A. Lansing; assessors, Nicholas Groesbeck, Zephaniah Russell, Abraham Viele, Jacob Yates, Martin Weatherwax; overseers of the poor, Walter N. Groesbeck, James Masters, Penuel Bacon; commissioners for roads, James S. Masters, John W. Groesbeck, William Kittle; constables, John Story, Sybrandt Viele, Jacob Groesbeck; collector, William Groesbeck; pathmasters, Jared Esbell, Ashley Goodrich, Richard Bennett, John Kinnion, Walter N. Groesbeck, Athaniel Samburns, Harrison Quackenbush, John W. Groesbeck, Abraham Viele, Garret Waldron, Peter Yates; fence viewers, Walter N. Groesbeck, Asa Havens, Nathaniel Rusco; poundmaster, Walter N. Groesbeck.

FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES.

The return of the anniversary day of our national independence was yearly honored after the revolution by the people of Schaghticoke. The following are parts of the recorded proceedings of the citizens of the town July 4, 1798:

A respectable number of the inhabitants of the town of Schaghticoke convened at the house of Jesse Jadwin on the 4th of July, 1798, to celebrate the anniversary of American independence, where they partook of an elegant dinner and spent the day in conviviality and merriment, and received a federal salute from a number of militia, who attended on the occasion.

Among the toasts of the day were:

May we never pay tribute to any nation except in powder and ball. May the tree of liberty, which blossoms with the American cockade, flourish triumphantly in the soil of America and root out all foreign obnoxious weeds.

Another company assembled at Mr. Viele's for the celebration of the birth of our national existence. "The ceremonies were introduced by a song, wherein was developed the progress

of the Revolution," etc. "Mr. Howell Gardner then delivered an oration pertinent to the occasion; after which a song, composed for the day was sung. The company then partook of a repast of the delicious bounties of nature, the rich reward of independence."

THE HOME OF THE KICKERBACKERS.

The old homestead of the Knickerbacker family is one of the interesting monuments which remain at Schaghticoke to invest the picturesque valley of peace with many quaint and historical associations. A pleasant ride of five miles westward from Hart's Falls, early known as Schaghticoke Point, brings the visitor before the venerable mansion, which is charmingly embowered by a number of stately trees, whose great leafy branches spread their grateful shade over its vine-clad walls. Seated within the welcoming arms of the comfortable chairs on the front porch, a most delightful landscape attracts and charms the eye with its varied scenery. The old front door, with its upper and lower sections swinging separately upon heavy iron hinges, forcibly recalls the days of a past century and the people living within its portals. The big brass knocker, or as the Dutch people would say, *de groot koper klopper*, is still attached to the upper half of the door. Entering into the hall the visitor is surrounded with numerous mementoes of lang syne. Besides the quaint Dutch furniture which attracts one's examination, upon the wall are suspended some of the prized heir-loom of the Knickerbacker family. Over the parlor door is hung the memorial platter to Hermanus Knickerbacker, 1763. It is a thick, heavy silver dish, about 15 inches in diameter, and has on its rim this inscription:

Ene Gedagtenis van Herman Knickerbacker die is overleeden op den 18 de September A. D. 1768 Oud Synde 8 en 50 jaeren 8 maanden ende 18 dagen.

Above the back hall door hangs the sword of Col. John Knickerbacker, worn by him at the battle of Stillwater, 1777. With it are suspended an old powder horn, a sickle and a military sash. Among the other curiosities of the hall way are an old fashioned brass warming pan, and a foot stove which, filled with live coals, was borne to the old Dutch church, in winter, to warm the feet of the Knickerbacker dames.

In the parlor is the Dutch family clock more than two centuries old, made by Dav. Moras Muchty. Here one sees the tiles of the fireplace ornamented with scriptural scenes, and a large collection of relics consisting of silver shoe-buckles, watch-fobs, cloak-fastenings,

Indian arrow-heads, stone hatchets, snuff-boxes, etc.

AN OLD DUTCH BIBLE.

The old Dutch Bible used by the ministers of the first Reformed Protestant Dutch church at Schaghticoke, is here also preserved in its original heavy board binding and brass clasps. The title page of the old testament is torn out, but the other leaves and the engraving are retained. The new testament title page reads:

Het Nieuwe Testament ofte alle Boecken des Nieuwen Verbonds onses Heeren Jesu Christi Door Last van de Hoog: Mog: Heeren Staaten Generael Der Vereenighde Nederlanden, ende volgens 't Besluit vaude Synode Nationael, gehouden tot Dordrecht, in de Jaren 1618 ende 1619, etc. * * * Te Dordrecht by Hendrick-en-Jacob-Keur en 't Amsterdam by Marcus Doorneck, in compagne Ao. 1632.

The arms of the Knickerbacker family are seen in a painting hanging on the parlor wall. Below the figure of a helmet is a lion rampant and three Maltse crosses. The Dutch motto reads: "Die Stryd met Fortuyn wint," "Who strives with fortune wins."

Every room in the house is full of novel surprises. The spacious cellar, the great barn, the old well with its weighted sweep-pole and the venerable tree of peace, at a close remove from the house, attract the attention of the visitor.

THE KICKERBACKER BURYING GROUND.

At a short distance northwest of the house is the burying ground of the Knickerbacker family. In this God's acre stand the stone monuments which mark the last resting place of many of the Knickerbackers.

Here is found a rude gray stone slab on which is inscribed: "In memory of Johannes Knickerbacker, died 1749, aged 70 years. His wife Anna, died 1732, aged 57."

Near by is a white marble tablet marking the grave of their son: "In memory of Col. John Knickerbacker, who departed this life, 10th August, 1802, in the 79th year of his age."

The grave of the colonel's son is designated by an inscribed stone: "In memory of John Knickerbacker, Esq., who was born January 29, 1751, old style, and departed this life November 10, 1827, new style."

The tombstone of the eldest son of Johannes Knickerbacker, the first of the family settling at Schaghticoke, is thus inscribed: "Sacred to the memory of Herman Knickerbacker, who died September 6, 1769, in the fifty-ninth year of his age."

Here is to be seen the grave of that worthy and genial gentleman who was so widely known as Prince Knickerbacker, son of John Knick-

Knicker, the third. "Herman Knickerbacker, a representative in the eleventh congress of the United States, and for many years judge of the county of Rensselaer. Born July 27, 1779; died June 30, 1855."

The father of Joseph Foster Knickerbacker, the present occupant of the homestead, is also buried here. His tomb is marked by a large stone monument, on which is inscribed: "Abraham Knickerbacker, born April 7th, 1806; died March 11, 1869. Mary Ann Hale, his wife, born April 29, 1806; died March 18th, 1849."

The grave stone of the brother of Joseph Foster Knickerbocker is inscribed: "In memory of John Hale, son of Abraham and Mary Ann Knickerbacker, born March 16, 1829; died June 17, 1858."

John Hale Knickerbacker was a graduate of Union college and also of the Rensselaer Polytechnic institute, and was for a time a member of the firm of Wallace & Knickerbacker, druggists, on River street, Troy. He had a cultured taste for Dutch literature, and wrote the genealogy of the family in the Dutch language, and at the time of his death had in preparation for the press a Dutch grammar.

By the side of his grave is that of his sister, Mary E. Knickerbacker, who died on the eve of her graduation from the Troy female seminary, July 30, 1846, aged 16 years and 5 months.

The durability of wood is practically exhibited by the excellent preservation of a pitch-pine head-board, standing in this graveyard, which bears date of 1773.

The marble monument "erected by the consistory of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of the city of New York in commemoration of the services of the Rev. Lambertus De Ronde" is a conspicuous object in this burial ground. On it, besides the above paragraph, is the following inscription:

Rev. Lambertus De Ronde, minister of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church in the city of New York, born in Holland, 1719, settled in the ministry at New York, 1751, died at Schaghticoke, 1795, aged 75 years.

UNCLE TOM.

In that part of the burial ground where the slaves and servants of the Knickerbacker family are buried is a rude stone on which are the memorial words "Old Tom," who had been a most devoted servant for almost 90 years. Among the stories handed down of Tom's peculiarities is this one: Old Tom's arithmetic was limited, and he could not enumerate higher than three. On one occasion, it is said, it became necessary for him to count the sheep of a flock. Being placed at the en-

trance of a field, he was told to count them out in a loud voice as they passed him. As the sheep ran through the gate Tom called out: "One! two! tree! Dar goes anudder! dar goes anudder! dar goes anudder!" "Stop!" cried his master, "what do you mean by that?" "Why, massa," said Tom, "I done count no more than tree; I tought I could, but I could n't."

THE KNICKERBACKER GENEALOGY.

Herman Jansen Knickerbacker, son of Johannes Von Bergen Knickerbacker, it is said, was the first person of the Knickerbacker name that emigrated to America. Shortly after his arrival in New Netherland he married the daughter of Myndert Hermance Von de Bogert, commissary at Fort Orange. Of his seven children his eldest was Johannes Knickerbacker, the first settler of that name that obtained a tract of land from the authorities of the city of Albany at Schaghticoke.

THE OLD DUTCH CHURCH.

Tradition asserts that there was a church organization effected at a very early date in Schaghticoke, and that the first house of worship was burned at the time of the French and Indian war. A new meeting house was erected, it is said, in 1760, opposite the red school house, about a mile east of the Knickerbacker homestead. This building was a frame one, 60 by 40 feet, with low walls and a light pitched roof. At the east end of the edifice was a bulbous turret, surmounted by a weather cock. The octagonal pulpit, cramped and elevated, had its accompanying canopy and sounding board. The desk of the "voorlezer," or reading clerk, was immediately in front of the pulpit.

Among the petitions in 1780 presented to the common council of Albany was one "signed by Johannes Knickerbacker, jr., in behalf of the elders and deacons of the Reformed Dutch church at Schaghtekoke * * * praying a grant of one acre of land adjoining the lands of Walter N. Groesbeck."

The following is a part of the certificate of the incorporation of the church, found among the church patents in the office of the clerk of Albany county:

We, the subscribers, elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church or congregation, lately formed and established at Schaghticoke, in the county of Albany, having assembled together at the said church on this fourth day of November, in the year 1788. * * * certify that the trustees of the said church or congregation, and their successors forever shall as a body corporate be called * * * the ministers, elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of Schaghtikook. Signed by Peter Benewy, John

Klickerbacker, jr., Harman Quackenboss and Peter P. Winne.

In 1833 the old building was torn down and a more modern structure erected on its site. A number of years ago this building was buried. The site of the next church building was selected in another locality, which is a short distance from the railroad station known as Reynolds, on the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railroad. The Rev. Theodore Frelinghuysen was the first pastor of this church. He was succeeded by the Rev. E. Westerloo. The pastors of the church successively have been the following, from the time of the last-named one's ministrations:

From 1773 to 1784, the Rev. Elias Van Bunschoten; 1784-1796, the Rev. Lambertus De Ronde; 1796-1807, the Rev. Winslow Page; 1810-1821, the Rev. Stephen Ostrander; 1823-1829, the Rev. Abraham D. Switz; 1831-1834, the Rev. Aaron A. Marcelus; 1836-1841, the Rev. Hugh Boyd; 1842-1844, the Rev. M. Ackerman; 1845-1847, the Rev. A. H. Myers; 1848-1856, the Rev. Jacob D. Fonda; 1857-1861, the Rev. Rutgers Van Brunt; 1864-1869, the Rev. George White; 1870-1872, the Rev. J. D. Vele; 1872-1879, the Rev. Solomon T. Cole; 1879 to date, the Rev. Ackerman.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCHAGHTICOKE.

The first Presbyterian church in the town of Schaghticoke was organized May 24, 1803. At the meeting held at that time at the house of Bethuel Masters, which was attended by 44 persons, the following men were elected trustees: Ezekiel Baker, Lewis Bryant, Edward Ostrander, Jacob Williams and Nathaniel Rusco. About the year 1805 a frame house of worship was built. About the year 1820 the building was removed from the hill on the Baucus farm to Schaghticoke point or Hart's Falls, as the village is now called. The present brick church near the American house was erected in 1848 at a cost of \$18,000. It has seats for about 400 people. The edifice was enlarged in 1863 and further improved in 1875. The first pastor of the church was the Rev. Thomas Fletcher, who began his ministry here August 11, 1824. He was succeeded by the following ministers: 1837-1865, the Rev. J. H. Noble; 1869-1871, the Rev. G. W. Martin; 1872-1879, the Rev. Henry Neill, jr.; 1880 to date, the Rev. William Belden, D. D. The membership of the church numbers about 150 communicants.

TRINITY PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first Protestant Episcopal church at Hart's Falls, known as Trinity church, was organized September 21, 1846. At the meeting held at this date at the school-house, district No. 2, the following persons were elected officers of the church: Roswell J. Brown and James

Ackhurst, wardens; and Zechariah Lyon, Tibbits Briggs, Benjamin Rogers, William Searles, Joseph Brown, John Quintin, Charles Hayward and Edwin Smith. The Rev. George H. Eastman, immediately after the organization of the church, became rector. For about 20 years the church was in a disorganized condition. However, in 1871, July 16, the Rev. William Bogart Walker of St. Luke's parish, Mechanicville, entered upon his rectorship of this church, and soon had it in a more prosperous condition. In 1875 a commodious church edifice was erected at a cost of \$5,000, with a seating capacity for 200 people. The Rev. William B. Walker resigned his rectorship July 26, 1905, and was succeeded by the Rev. R. G. Hamilton, October 14, 1875, who recently, in 1880, also tendered his resignation to the congregation. A parsonage has recently been built near the church. The church register has the names of about 50 communicants upon its pages.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT HART'S FALLS.

The First Methodist society at Schaghticoke point was organized about the year 1825. A small building was shortly after refitted for a meeting house. The church was incorporated January 15, 1831. The first structure not being sufficiently commodious for the increased membership, another building about the year 1835 was erected on the north side of Fifth street. The church now numbers about 100 members. The trustees of the church at the time of its incorporation were: Franklin Miller, Daniel Chase and Samuel D. Welch. The Rev. R. T. Wade is its present pastor.

ST. JOHN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AT HART'S FALLS.

The missionary labors of different priests belonging to the Roman Catholic church were successful, about the year 1840, in gathering together a large congregation at Schaghticoke point. Among the chief promoters of this new church enterprise were Patrick Butler, John Breslin, William Graham and Patrick McGowan. George Tibbits of Troy gave to the congregation the site of the church, which was erected in 1842 on it at a cost of \$5,000. The building was enlarged in 1863. The Rev. Father Riley is the present pastor of the church.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT MELROSE.

Previous to the year 1850 the congregation of this church was united with the Gilead Evangelical Lutheran church at Centre Brunswick. The certificate of the church's incorporation bears date of May 13, 1850, in which the following persons are named as trustees: Thomas

Esmond, Jacob Stover, Jacob Dater, Leonard Green, John J. Sipperly, Allen Way, Mather Webster, Seneca Dennis, Solomon V. R. Miller. The pastors of the church have been since the year of American independence the following:

The Rev. G. J. Wichteman, 1776-1793; the Rev. Anthon T. Braun, 1794-1812; the Rev. John Bachman, 1812-1813; the Rev. John Molther, 1814-1817; the Rev. William McCarthy, 1817-1821; the Rev. J. R. Goodman, 1821-1838; the Rev. J. Z. Senderling, 1838-1849; the Rev. S. Curtis, 1850-1852; the Rev. John Selmser, 1852-1857; the Rev. V. F. Bolton, 1858-1872; the Rev. J. R. Sikes, 1873-1877; the Rev. N. Wirt, from October 11, 1877, to present time.

The present church building, situated on the hill at Melrose, was erected at the time the Rev. John Selmser was pastor. The church is in a very prosperous condition.

THE FRANKEAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT BRYANS' CORNERS.

This church was organized at Bryans' Corners, on the east bank of the Hudson river, on the 6th of March, 1852. At this meeting the Rev. Rufus Smith was chosen pastor and Matthias Snyder, 2d, Silas Miller and William T. Blewer elected deacons. The church was incorporated April 6, 1852, Hiram C. Bryan, Matthias Snyder and George W. Blewer being trustees.

A frame church building was erected that same year, at a cost of \$1,200, with a seating capacity for 100 persons. The successors of the first pastor have been the following:

The Rev. George W. Hemperly, 1860-62; the Rev. Valentine F. Bolton, 1866-1867; the Rev. J. R. Sikes, 1876; the Rev. M. W. Empric, 1877; the Rev. Mr. Danks, 1878; the Rev. N. Wirt, 1879—to date.

There is also Methodist Episcopal church at Schaghticoke Hill, and another at Grant's Hollow, both of which are in a very flourishing condition and are in charge of the same pastor.

HART'S FALLS.

The village of Hart's Falls, early known as Schaghticoke point, was incorporated March 20, 1867. About the first manufacturing business carried on at this place was a fulling mill which September 1, 1798, was operated by Edward Hart. The postoffice established here early in the present century was designated as being at Schaghticoke. The village has 1,525 inhabitants, and is about 13 miles north-east of Troy, at the "Great Falls" of the Hoosick river. The Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railway passes through the village, and the Troy and Boston railroad has a station known as the Schaghticoke depot, a short distance east of the place.

Among the societies of the place was Homer

lodge No. 76, F. and A. Masons, which had its first charter given it January 3, 1799, signed by John Adams, secretary. In 1847 it ceased working.

Victor lodge No. 680 was organized November 13, 1867. The lodge meets as did the Homer lodge, in rooms in the Schaghticoke house. The first officers of Victor lodge were:

Worshipful master, W. H. Steele; senior warden, George W. Finch; junior warden, Charles A. Pickett; treasurer, John A. Baucus; corresponding secretary, Chauncey B. Slocum.

The excellent water power, at this point, makes Hart's Falls quite an important place of manufactories. Here are the paper mills of James Baucus & Co., built about the year 1850; the Cable flax mills, which give employment to more than 200 persons. This successful manufacturing company was organized in 1871. The officers of the company are: President, Thomas Lape; secretary, E. A. Hartshorn; treasurer, R. E. Starks. The office and salesrooms of the company are at No. 179 River street, Troy.

The mills of the Schaghticoke powder company are about a half mile southeast of the village. The officers of the company are: Wm. P. Bliss, president; Thomas L. Doremus, secretary; and C. J. Olds, superintendent.

The Schaghticoke woolen mills were built in 1864. In March, 1879, J. J. Joslin became the owner of the mills. About 200 persons find employment in these factories. The grist mill of George Ewart & Son also adds importance to the place.

SCHAGHTICOKE HILL.

This hamlet is situated on the Tomhannock creek, about one mile from the Troy and Boston railroad. Here is a Methodist church and the school house of district No. 11. It has also one hotel, a blacksmith shop, and shoemaker shop, a store, G. B. Burton's twine mill and saw mill.

At Schaghticoke Hill was the residence of Hon. Herman Knickerbacker, who once at Washington facetiously called himself "the prince of the tribe of Schaghticoke."

It is said that the humorous history of New York, written by Washington Irving under the *nom de plume* of Diedrich Knickerboker, was suggested to the author by his long and pleasant acquaintance with Herman Knickerbacker.

It was at the prince's house at Schaghticoke hill that the mayor and common council of Troy were handsomely entertained a number of years ago, as had been the custom at the old Knickerbacker homestead, for a long time, to extend such hospitalities to the mayor and members of the common council of the city of Albany. It is related that when the Troy guests

arrived with appetites sharpened by a long drive, the prince pretended to have forgotten the day appointed for their reception. He, however, told his hungry visitors that he would do the best the short time then allowed him for preparation permitted. He was shortly afterward heard earnestly discussing with his cook how to make one pair of chickens suffice for so many guests. The mayor and members of the common council of Troy were greatly disturbed by the perplexing position in which their unanticipated visit had placed their unprovided host. But a pleasant surprise and a hearty enjoyment of the practical joke followed, when immediately after the occurrence of the conversation between the prince and the cook, the dining room doors were thrown open, exhibiting to the astonished guests a most bountiful and appetizing repast already prepared and waiting their eating.

MELROSE.

This is a station on the Troy and Boston railroad in the south part of the town of Schaghticoke.

It has a postoffice, hotel, a store and a blacksmith shop. South of it is Grant's Hollow where there is a store, a Methodist church and the school house of district No. 10. The manufactory of the Grant fan mill and cradle company is one of the chief enterprises of the place and is managed by the firm of D. H. Viall, J. P. Leavens and Ezra Banker. At Bryant's Corners, on the east bank of the Hudson, is the school house of district No. 6 and a manufactory of agricultural implements carried on by W. W. Bryan. Reynolds is a newly established postoffice and a station on the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railroad, east of Mechanicville.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF SCHAGHTICOKE.

1780.....	1,833	1845.....	3,061
1800.....	2,355	1850.....	3,240
1810.....	2,402	1855.....	3,300
1815.....	2,847	1860.....	2,829
1820.....	2,522	1865.....	3,054
1825.....	2,421	1870.....	3,125
1830.....	3,002	1875.....	3,271
1835.....	3,243	1880.....	3,611
1840.....	3,389		

CHAPTER IX.

THE TOWN OF SCHODACK.

A GREAT CORN COUNTRY—THE OPDRACHT BRIEF OF 1637—RENSSELAER'S STEIN AT BEEREN ISLAND—THE ISLAND CALLED SCHOTACK BY THE INDIANS—JACOB JANSE FLODDER ON THE GOJER'S KILL—SCHODACK INVADED BY THE FRENCH IN 1696—ERECTION OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK—ORGANIZATION OF DUTCH CHURCHES—THE VILLAGES AND HAMLETS—POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

The truthfulness of any statement seems generally more patent when the particulars of such a declaration are derived from an original and well-authenticated document than when the same are transmitted orally or by tradition. The first as a source of information is not easily corrupted by subsequent changes of its text without such interpolations and cancellations being detected, but when the narration of the circumstances of the occurrence is obtained through the channels of tradition, the reliability of such information is often questionable as regards veracity.

THE INDIANS ENTERTAIN HENRY HUDSON.

In 1625 John de Laet published a work under the name of the "New World, or a Description of the West Indies." In his description of the New Netherlands,—the territory now mostly embraced by the state of New York, then possessed by the Dutch,—this historian alludes to some of the incidents connected with Henry Hudson's exploration of the river which now bears his name. The Dutch writer says that when the English navigator had sailed up the river as far as latitude $42^{\circ} 18'$, he was invited ashore by the friendly aborigines. Then quoting Hudson's journal, he furnishes the following details of the visit made to the home of a hospitable Indian chief by the commander of the Half Moon:

I sailed to the shore in one of their canoes with an old man, who was the chief of a tribe consisting of 40 men and 17 women: these I saw there in a house well constructed of oak-bark, and circular in shape, so that it had the appearance of being built with an arched roof. It contained a great

quantity of maize or Indian corn and beans of the last year's growth, and there lay near the house for the purpose of drying enough to load three ships, besides what was growing in the fields. On our coming into the house, two mats were spread out to sit upon, and immediately some food was served in well made red wooden bowls; two men were dispatched at once with bows and arrows in quest of game, who soon after brought in a pair of pigeons which they had shot. They likewise killed a fat dog, and skinned it in haste with shells which they had got out of the water. They supposed that I would remain with them for the night, but I returned after a short time on board the ship. The land is the finest for cultivation that I ever in my life set foot upon, and it also abounds in trees of every description. The natives are a very good people, for when they saw that I would not remain, they supposed that I was afraid of their bows, and, taking the arrows, they broke them in pieces and threw them into the fire.

Tradition adds to this historic record that the place where Hudson was thus entertained was on Castle hill, an eminence east of the village of Castleton, whereon was the house of the Indian chief referred to in De Laet's history. But as the southern boundary line of Rensselaer county is given in the state gazetteers as $42^{\circ} 27'$ north latitude, the location of the place if it was on the east side of the river, $42^{\circ} 18'$, would rather indicate that it was nearer the city of Hudson, in Columbia county, which is in latitude $42^{\circ} 14'$.

PAPSICKENEKAS.

For the purpose of complying with the requirements of the Dutch West India company in becoming the patroon of a large body of

land, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, through his agent, Jacob Albertzsen Plank, became the owner by purchase from the Indians, April 13, 1637, of a tract called Papsickencas lying on the east bank of the Hudson river, and extending from a point opposite Castle island southwardly as far as a point opposite Smackx island, and including the adjacent islands and all the land back into the interior. The remuneration which the Indian owners received for this grant was "certain quantities of duffels, axes, knives and wampum." The deed of the land purchased is endorsed "*Opdracht brief van't landt acnde Oostwal en de eylanden van Papsickaen, 1637*"—the transfer paper of the land on the east shore and the islands of Papsickaen, 1637. Castle island is a short distance south of the city of Albany, and Smackx island is south of the long island, on the east side of the river, partly included in the territory belonging to the town of East Greenbush and Schodack. Below Smackx island is Beeren island. On the map of Rensselaerwyck, made by Gillis Van Schendel in 1690, appear both *Smackx eyland* and *Beeren eyland nu Rensselaers eyland*. North of Smackx island are *Godyns eylanden*, Godyn's islands, and east of them *Paepsykenekaes Kill*, Paepsykenekaes creek.

BEEREN ISLAND FORTIFIED.

At a certain marked tree on the southern point of Beeren island are the southwest, southeast, northwest and northeast corners of Rensselaer, Albany, Columbia and Greene counties, respectively. It is said that about the year 1643 a number of unlicensed traders visited the manor of Rensselaerwyck and enticed the Indians into "secret trading places," where they persuaded them to part with the valuable furs which they had obtained by trapping, "not caring whether or not the trade was injured as to render the patroon unable to meet the expenses of this colonie." The next reprehensible thing which these interlopers, as they were called, did, was to debauch the Indians with "wine and strong drink which they sold at an usurious rate," and to induce the colonists not only to sell them the peltries which they had secured, but also to dispose of large quantities of grain, disregarding the patroon's pre-emption right, thereby not paying the tenths, or accounting for the halves or thirds which they had agreed to do in leasing the land which they were cultivating. Two measures were adopted by the patroon to prevent this high-handed boldness. First, he erected on Beeren island, or Bear's island, the southern boundary of his manorial estate, a fortification, the guns of which, commanding the river,

could prevent all other vessels but his own and those of the West India company from ascending the upper Hudson. He also established at this point a trading post. In the next place he exported from Holland a sufficient stock of goods to supply through his agents at Beverwyck and Beeren island the Indians of this part of the country and the neighboring settlers, taking in exchange furs and agricultural produce. Nicholas Coorn was made *wachtmeester*, or quartermaster, of the post at Beeren island. A claim of "staple right," a toll of five guilders, or two dollars, was then demanded of every trading vessel passing the fort and the lowering of their colors in honor of Rensselaer's stein. This feudal claim was maintained, it is said, until the death of the patroon, in 1646.

THE FIRST SETTLERS AT SCHODACK.

In the Albany county records the following conveyance of land from the Indians at Schodack is preserved:

"An Indian, Wattawit, with his mother named Pepewits, sold to Volckert Janssen (Douw) and Jan Tomassen, 2d, their certain land lying on the Gooijers kill on Apjen's island, or by the Indians called Schotack, their portion of Apjen's island, is the north end, extending from the north end until right over against the south end of the green flat (*groene plaet*) cutting obliquely over Apjen's island to the kill which makes the island; together with a piece of land on the east shore of the kill, being the east bank where the house of Machacknotas stood, and extending into the woods; for the sum of 42 guilders in beavers, payable in merchandise." This was done in the village of Beverwyck in presence of Thomas Chambers and Johannes Provost, October 14, 1663.

At the same time, on the same day there appeared before Johannes La Montagne, "an Indian with a squaw, the Indian named Naspahan or Pofponick, and the squaw named Pasies, owners of the south end of Apjen's island, named Schotack" who sold to the parties named in the previous conveyance the "south end of the aforesaid island, being the greatest half, beginning from the point over against the Green Flat (*groene plaet*) and running to the south end of said Apjen's island * * * for the sum of 500 guilders in beavers in merchandise."

JACOB JANSE FLODDER BUYS THE GOJER'S KILL.

By another conveyance it appears that Jacob Janse Flodder had as early as the year 1640 purchased a small creek and had hired a little piece of ground adjoining the kill from the Indians living in that vicinity. The paper is dated May 14, 1664, and names the following Indians as appearing before Johannes La Montagne, at

Albany, and making the declaration hereafter quoted: "Queskimiet, son of Pacies, Acpie, Wickepe and Kleyne Davidtie." These testified that 15 years before Jacob Janse Flodder bought the Gojer's kill, but no land with it, only a little piece north of said kill, which was granted him to make a garden, for the hire of which these deponents, owners of the same, had received only a piece of cloth. "The deponents being asked if Jacob Janse Flodder had bought some land at Schotack, thereupon unanimously answered, 'no,' but that he only had a small piece of land that they had rented to him to sow oats upon; furthermore that he had a rick there to house his grain in for the winter, but that he never had any ownership therein. Again the deponents being asked who are the lawful owners of Schotack and the fast bank extending the whole length of the island, declared that Jan Tomasse and Volekert Janse [Douw] are the lawful owners, who bought and paid for the same and nobody else."

The last named parties, on the 29th of December, 1670, conveyed to "Jan Laurensse [Van Alen] a certain parcel of land or plantation, as the same lies in fence and formerly occupied by Adrien Dirruxse de Vries, lying on the fast bank, at Schotack, with a little piece outside the fence formerly planted by the Indians."

FRENCH FOES INVADE SCHODACK.

The territory now embraced within the town of Schodack was before the close of the seventeenth century to some extent under tillage and the land lying along the river occupied by an industrious class of Dutch emigrants. Now and then, during the disturbances occasioned by the hostilities of the French directed against the English, the people at Schodack were alarmed by the close proximity of bodies of invading French soldiers. The most daring venture in this vicinity made by the hostile French was in the fall of 1696, the particulars of which are set forth in the following testimony:

The Examinations of Joseph de Boake, Philip Andrie la Condre and Isaac Gignon la Pomere, taken by Captain James Weems and Captain William Hyde in Fort Orange, at Albany, separately called, the 16th of October, 1696.

Joseph de Boake being called saith that on the 4th of September last, by an order in writing from Mons'r Govern'r of the Isle of Montreall, he marched from the said place having under his command one and twenty French and one Indian, with forty-five dayes provisions, that they were twelve days upon the river and landed upon the shore of Lake Champlain above the point of La Sheblare: there left their three canoes with all their provisions but ten dayes, which they took with them and designed to make an easier attack upon

some part of the Five Nations or the English their enemys. After eight dayes travell they arrived at some uninhabited houses over against the Flatts where he advanced himselfe with two more to discover what he could; leaving the rest of his party behinde him about a league and halfe; but discerning three Indians burning of a ring, fearing lest he should be discovered retreated to his party, and betook themselves to a thickett that night, and next morning marched towards Kinderhook, and next day about two hours before sunnset they were attacked, being only at that time together of them, thirteen, the rest being dispersed or lost. After some shott being discharged on both sides his party and he retreated, the examinant being grievously wounded in the arm was not able to proceed; therefore advised his party to surrender to some of the English in the next villages, for he was not able to head them any longer, by reason of being very faint with the loss of much blood, and earnestly importuned them to submit according to his council, least they should fall into the hands of the Indians, who would have no mercy of them; all refused but two who joyned with him, and in three dayes after surrendered to the inhabitants of Seotack who brought them to Albany this day.

PEOPLE LIVING IN SCHODACK IN 1676 AND 1773.

From a map of the manor of Rensselaerwyck made by Jno. R. Bleeker, in 1676, and from one made by Robert Yates, in 1773, the names of the following persons are taken whose houses were designated as being in the southern part of the manor:

Opposite Moseman's or Musmus island, now known as Schermerhorn's island, near the southern boundary line of the manor, dwelt Hendrick Van Beuren and Jacobus Van der Poel, and eastward Nicolaes Ketel. East of the Murtius or Muitzes kill and west of the Vly kill Hansie Van Valkenbergh, and eastwardly beyond the old road running northward, Anthony Van der Poel. North ward along the river road were the houses of Wouter Barhuyt, Jeronimus Van Valkenbergh, Casper Sprinsteen and Jacob Cornelise Schermerhorn. Opposite Schotack island, north of a small stream, were the houses of Reyer Schermerhorn, Jacob Schermerhorn, Engeline Schermerhorn, Jacob Van Valkenbergh, Rolof Janze and John H. Beckman. North of Reyer Schermerhorn's house was the Dutch church. Eastwardly along the branches of the Muitzes kill were the farms of Andries Hnyck, — Springsteen, Isaac Muller and — Schevers. On the north side of the mouth of the Muitzes kill were the Schotack mills. North of the stream known as Vlockie kill was the house of Hans Van Beuren, and eastward, beyond the north road, that of Peter Lodwick.

Eastwardly from the river, and on the south side of Moordeners kill, were the homes of a Van Beuren family and of Cornelius Sprong. North and along the north bank of the kill going eastwardly dwelt Jonathan Witbeck, Hans Salsberg, — Fetch, Henry Shans and Caper Ham. Northwardly of these farmers lived Marte Van Beuren, Benjamin Van Den Bergh, Benjamin Van Beuren, Hans Witbeck and Henry Peter Van Beuren. North of the Vierda kill were the residences of Cornelius Van Beuren, Hansie Van Hegan, Jacobus Van Hegan, Abraham Van Hegan, Jacob Jacobse Schermerhorn and Evert Lansing. On the south part of Staats's island were the homes of Joachim and Gerrit Staats. From these designations it may be inferred that about the year 1770 there were about 40 families of farmers residing within the limits of the territory now embraced in the present town of Schodack.

THE OVERSLAUGH.

Between Staats's island and Douw's point, formerly the channel of the Hudson river was often made shallow by accumulations of diluvial detritus. The shoals and bars thus created often rendered the navigation of this part of the river extremely difficult. This hindrance to the easy passage of river craft gave to the place the designation of the *overslaugh*. Early in the present century the state expended considerable money here in building dykes and in bridging the river bed. When steamboats began to ply between New York and Albany and Troy, it often happened that the shallowness of the water at this point permitted them to ascend no farther northward. At such times passengers were carried to and from the boats in stage coaches, and the cargoes taken away and brought to them in lighters. Van Wie's point on the west side of the river and Staats's dock on the east side were generally the places to which the stages ran to connect with the steamboats.

ERECTION OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK.

On the 17th of March, 1795, the state legislature passed "An act to divide the town of Rensselaerwyck, in the county of Rensselaer." By this enactment the town of Schodack was created. It provided:

That all that part of the town of Rensselaerwyck, bounded as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of the town of Troy, and running thence easterly along the southern boundary line of said town, to the western bounds of the town of Petersburg, thence southerly along the western bounds of the town of Petersburg and Schodacktown, 632 chains, thence south 86 degrees and 4 minutes west, as the needle now points unto Hudson's river, thence northerly along the said

river, to the place of beginning, and including such of the islands in the said river as are nearest the east side thereof, and are adjacent to the said last mentioned line, shall, from and after the first Monday in April next, be erected into a separate town, by the name of Greenbush; and that the first town meeting in Greenbush shall be held at the dwelling house of David M. De Forest in the said town; and that all the remaining part of the town of Rensselaerwyck shall be and remain a separate town by the name of Schodack; and that the first town meeting in the town of Schodack shall be held at the dwelling house of John I. Miller in the said town.

The provisions of this act, it will be seen, extinguished the designation "Rensselaerwyck," which had, since 1630, been applied to the whole and subsequently to portions of the territory now embraced in the limits of Rensselaer county.

In 1806 portions of the territory of the town were subtracted to form the towns of Berlin and Nassau. The town is bounded on the west by the Hudson river and is in the southwestern corner of the county. The soil in the eastern part is clayey, and in the western a fertile loam of sand and gravel. The land is mostly very productive, and is devoted generally to agricultural uses.

THE FIRST OFFICERS OF THE TOWN.

The first officers of the town were elected on April 7, 1795. They were the following:

Supervisor, Aaron Ostrander; assessors, Cornelius Schermerhorn, Nicholas Staats, Thomas Frost, Jonathan Hoag, Nathaniel Brockway; overseers of the poor, James McKown, Isaac Phillips; collector, Henry Sheffer; commissioners of highways, Elijah Kelsey, Hosea Hamilton, Walter Carpenter; constables, Henry Sheffer, Charles Mason, Reuben Barton, Joseph Eurbach, Thomas Brumagum; poundmasters, John Van Ness, Jonathan Hoag; fence viewers, Jacobus Vander Poel, Jacob Barhuyt, Barent Van der Bergh, David Arnold, Jesse De Freest, Peter Aulhuysen, George Milleas, Nathaniel Brockway, Samuel Brown, Germond Filkin, Richard Yates; patmasters, John E. Lansing, St. Ledger Cowles, Darius Sherman, Jacobus Van Ness, Jacob Van Valkenburgh, David Bell, Joseph Bell, Joseph Vichory, Cornelius Schermerhorn, Jacobus Volmsbee, John Van Ness, Jr., and Harmon Coun.

THE REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH OF SCHODACK.

It is believed that this church was organized about the year 1756, when the Rev. Johannes Casparus Fryenmoet became pastor of the Dutch churches at Kinderhook, Claverack and Livingston manor. In the call to this minister it was stipulated that he was to serve the people of Kinderhook two-thirds of his time and the remainder those living at Schodack. In

1773 the site of the church is designated on a map made by Robert Yates, which was between the residences of Ryer Schermerhorn and Jacob Schermerhorn, a short distance north of Schodack landing.

In the certificate of incorporation it is stated that Jacobus V. C. Romeyn, minister, Andries Ten Eyck, John H. Beckman, Jacob C. Schermerhorn and Jacobus Van der Poel, elders, and Daniel Schermerhorn, Johannes J. Van Valkenburgh, Maus Van Buren and Roelof Johnson, deacons, had assembled together at the church on the 18th day of August, 1788, and had taken the title of "the minister, elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of Schotack."

In 1810 the church building was removed to its present site at Muitzeskill, two and a quarter miles east of Schodack landing. In 1825 it was enlarged, and further remodeled in 1866. On the 27th of February, 1876, the building was destroyed by fire. The present commodious edifice was erected in 1876 at a cost of about \$6,000, and was dedicated the same year on the 6th of December. The Rev. R. W. Clark, D. D., of Albany, preached the sermon on this occasion, and the Rev. William Veenschoten officiating. This church has a seating capacity for about 300 persons. The roll of membership includes 126 persons, and the Sabbath school 150. The following persons have been successively the pastors of this flourishing church:

The Rev. J. C. Fryenmoet, 1756-1778; the Rev. Jacobus Van Campen Romeyn, 1788-1794; the Rev. Christian Bork, 1798-1808; the Rev. Jesse Fonda, 1809-1813; the Rev. Peter Van Buren, 1814-1820; the Rev. Isaiah Y. Johnson, 1821-1823, died in his pastorate; the Rev. Asa Bennett, 1824-1828; the Rev. Staats Van Santvoord, 1829-1834; the Rev. John Gray, 1835-1836; the Rev. William Bailey, 1847-1856; the Rev. Benjamin F. Snyder, 1856-1860; the Rev. A. B. Peffers, 1869-1873, and the Rev. William Veenschoten, 1874 to date.

REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH OF SCHODACK LANDING.

The reformed Dutch church of Schodack landing was organized Nov. 2, 1858. The officers of the church, Egbert Reed and Peter G. Ten Eyck, elders, and Joel Reed and Israel Matson, deacons, were installed at that time by the Rev. L. H. Van Dyck and the Rev. J. R. Talmage, the committee appointed by the classis of Rensselaer, which had met at Ghent, on the third Tuesday of September that same year. The object of this organization was for the purpose of enabling the society to legally possess the present church building which had been erected in 1855 upon land given by John Schermerhorn. This body held connection with the church at

Muitzeskill until 1866, at which time it became a separate society belonging to the classis of Rensselaer. The first pastor of this flourishing church was the Rev. Isaac L. Kip, who served the congregation from 1867 to 1875. The Rev. William J. Leggett succeeded the former pastor in 1875, and has served the congregation to the present time. The present membership of the church is 172 persons, and that of the Sunday school 160.

ST. PETER'S BAPTIST CHURCH OF SCHODACK.

This Baptist society dates its organization back as early as the year 1780. The Rev. Stephen Olmstead was elected in 1797 pastor of this society, which then had 51 members. The society was first known as the Baptist church of New Bethlehem, and erected its first log house of worship in the north east corner of the town of Schodack. The old structure was removed about the year 1800, and the present church building erected on its site. Stephen Van Rensselaer gave the society a deed of 21 acres of ground for the site of a meeting house and a parsonage.

The following persons were elected March 29, 1802, "to take charge of the estate and property belonging to the Baptist church," as there were "no church wardens or elders of said church," at the time: William Lewis, James Gillyers, Timothy Phillips, Thomas Frost, jr., David Calkins and David Tremier. The early records of the church were consumed at the time the Rev. Stephen Olmstead's house was burned, early in the present century. The names of the following ministers are given as those of the different pastors of this church:

The Rev. Stephen Olmstead, 1797-1832; the Rev. C. C. Williams, 1832-1834; the Rev. D. Ford, 1834-1835; the Rev. J. D. Rogers, four years; the Rev. W. Harris, six years; the Rev. A. Milne, 1846-1851; the Rev. P. P. Sanderson, two years; the Rev. W. Allen, two years; the Rev. D. Robinson, 1858-1860; the Rev. H. M. Jones, two years; the Rev. G. W. Demers; the Rev. Lewis Selleck, 1866-1870; the Rev. T. H. Greene, 1870 to present time.

The number of the present membership is 83.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT CASTLETON.

This society was organized in 1836 through the missionary labors of the Rev. Joshua Poor. In 1838 the first church edifice was erected on lot No. 81 Main street, at a cost of \$3,000, having a seating capacity for about 300 persons. It was remodeled in 1858 and enlarged in 1879. The present membership of the church embraces 160 persons, and the Sunday school about 200. In the order of time the following ministers have served this congregation:

The Revs. Joshua Poor, Philetus Green, Dillon Stevens, C. R. Morris, C. Barber, W. W. Pierce, A. A. Farr, H. B. Knight, A. A. Farr; in 1844 the charge having become a separate station, the Revs. R. Wescott, J. W. Belknap, E. H. Foster, S. H. Hancock, D. W. Dayton, J. L. Cook, A. Heath, H. Warner, B. Isbell, Homer Eaton, R. Wescott, Truman Seymour, E. Goss, J. Pegz, Selah W. Brown, Andrew McGilton, B. F. Livingston, Edward E. Taylor, J. G. Gooding, and the present pastor, the Rev. E. A. Blanchard.

THE REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH OF CASTLETON.

This church was organized in 1853. The house of worship was erected in 1852. The following pastors have been connected with the ministrations of this church. The Rev. E. P. Stimpson was called the year of the organization of the body; the Rev. Edgar L. Herrnance from 1861- 869, and the Rev. George A. Mills, the present pastor, began his labors in 1870.

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF EAST SCHODACK.

The congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church of East Schodack was organized May 15, 1842. A house of worship was erected in 1844. A new edifice was built in 1872. The pastors of this church have been the following:

The Rev. H. L. Dox, 1842-1850; the Rev. N. Van Alstyne, 1850-1860; the Rev. M. W. Empie, 1861; the Rev. J. Kling, and the present pastor, the Rev. C. L. Barringer.

RAILROADS.

The Castleton and West Stockbridge railroad company was incorporated May 5, 1834. The act provided for the construction of "single or double railroad from any part of the village of Castleton to the state line near the village of West Stockbridge, in the state of Massachusetts." The following persons were named as incorporators:

Jeremiah Gage, James L. Hogeboom, Abiel Buckman, John E. Stearns, John I. Schermerhorn, Jacob A. Ten Eyck, Sylvester Van Valkenburgh, Edward Door, jr., Joseph Colman, Ebenezer Crocker, Peter Grote, William Cevill, James Hogeboom, and their associates.

This company was changed May 5, 1836, to that of the Albany and West Stockbridge railroad company. The road being constructed, it was opened from Greenbush to Chatham, December 21, 1841, and as far as to the state line on the 12th of September, 1842. It was leased to the Western (Mass.) railroad company November 18, 1841, for the period of years stated in its charter. This road was consolidated with the Hudson and Boston railroad, extending from Hudson to Chatham Four Corners, and

with the road to Boston, known as the Boston and Albany railroad. The articles were agreed to, November 2, 1870, and filed January, 1871.

The Hudson river railroad which runs through the western part of the town of Schodack was organized May 12, 1846, and was opened from Albany to Hudson June 16, 1851, and to New York, October 1, 1851. This road was consolidated with the New York Central railroad, forming the New York Central and Hudson river railroad, by articles filed November 1, 1869.

CASTLETON.

The village of Castleton, situated on the east bank of the Hudson river, is eight miles south of Greenbush, and is a station of the Hudson river railroad. It was incorporated in the year 1827. There are at present about 200 buildings in the village, among which are the Reformed Protestant Dutch church, the Methodist Episcopal church, a school-house and two hotels. The Castleton cemetery association was incorporated October 5, 1855, and owns a plot of ground east of the village of 6 acres, which are attractively laid out into drives, walks and burial lots.

The national bank of Castleton was organized with a capital of \$100,000, January 25, 1865. Its first officers were: President, Joel D. Smith; directors, Joel D. Smith, J. V. D. Witbeck, Andrew Harder, Castle W. Herrick, Edwin H. Griffith, Frederick H. Hastings and Russell Downer. The present officers of this banking institution are: President, Joel Smith; directors, Andrew Harder, Joel Smith, Abel Merchant, T. B. Simmons, G. Van Voorhis, S. D. Campbell, F. P. Harder and J. R. Downer.

The Frank P. Harder engine company was organized in 1871, and possesses an excellent steam fire engine.

The order of F. and A. Masons is represented in the village by Sunnyside lodge, No. 731, which was organized in 1872. The village has a population of about 900.

SCHODACK LANDING.

This village is opposite Schodack island, and is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Castleton. It is a station of the Hudson River railroad and contains about 70 buildings, among which are the Reformed church, an academy built in 1844, a school house and two hotels. The population is about 350.

SCHODACK DEPOT.

The hamlet, which has assumed this name, is situated about the centre of the town and is a station of the Boston and Albany railroad. It contains about 30 buildings and a population of 100.

SOUTH SCHODACK.

South Schodack is south of Schodack depot, on the Boston and Albany railroad. There are about 15 buildings in the immediate vicinity of the station. As the places already mentioned, it has also a postoffice.

EAST SCHODACK.

East Schodack, frequently called Scott's Corners, is in the northeastern part of the town, and contains about 30 houses, among which is the Evangelical Lutheran church. The place took the designation of Scott's Corners from a hotel which was kept here quite early by a man named Scott. It has also a postoffice. Schodack lodge No. 87, F. and A. Masons, holds its meetings here.

SCHODACK CENTER.

Schodack Center is in the northern part of the town, and embraces about a half dozen buildings. A postoffice was established here about 1840. It has also a hotel.

MUITZESKILL.

This hamlet is in the southern part of the town, on a small creek known as Muitzes kill. It contains about 30 buildings, among which are the Reformed Protestant Dutch church, a woolen mill, a store, a hotel, and a school house. A number of years ago a postoffice was established here.

Masten's Corners is two miles south of Castleton, and Clark's Corners and the Baptist Neighborhood are in the northeastern part of the town, where is the site of the old Baptist church.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK.

1800.....	3,988	1845.....	3,749
1810.....	3,166	1850.....	3,569
1815.....	3,128	1855.....	3,837
1820.....	3,493	1860.....	3,668
1825.....	3,506	1865.....	4,015
1830.....	3,794	1870.....	4,442
1835.....	3,763	1875.....	4,354
1840.....	4,125	1880.....	4,808

CHAPTER X.

THE TOWN OF HOOSICK.

THE LAND EXTENDING TO NACHAWICKQUAAK — THE TRACT CALLED WAL-
LUMSCHAAK — TREES PRESERVED FOR MASTS FOR THE ROYAL NAVY —
THE BURNING OF HOUSES AND BARNs AT HOSECK — THE OLD SET-
TLEMENT OF SANCOIK — DEFEAT OF THE BRITISH AT WALLOOMSAC —
NUMEROUS CHURCHES ERECTED IN THE TOWN — A WORLD RENOWNED
MANUFACTORY — THE UNEXCELLED RECORD OF A GREAT INVENTION —
NEARLY TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND REAPING MACHINES MADE IN 1880
— THE WILDER COLLECTION — VILLAGES OF THE TOWN — POPULATION.

The unoccupied condition of the vast territory north of Albany, within the province of New York, no doubt induced the English government to convey by letters patent in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries large tracts of this land for small considerations to different individuals and associated persons. To have this wooded wilderness occupied by a class of frugal, industrious people would not only give greater prosperity to the new country, but such frontier farms would also of themselves be a protective girdle of safety to the growing settlements southward along the Hudson. There may have been some personal favoritism in this method of conveyance, but as there was such an immense tract of unsettled land to be disposed of, the question of partiality did not likely form the subject of any special comment or criticism at the time the letters patent were obtained, as had been the case when Kilian Van Rensselaer acquired his patroonship of the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

THE HOOSICK PATENT.

This grant of an extensive tract of land was recorded for Maria Van Rensselaer and her associates, July 28, 1688. It reads:

Thomas Dongan Capt. Genl & Governor in Chiefe In and over the Province of New Yorke and Territories Depending thereon in America under his most Sacred Majesty James the second by the Grace of God King of England Scotland France & Ireland Defender of the faith &c: To all whom these Presents Shall Come Sendeth

Greeting Whereas Maria Van Ranslear of Renslerswyck in the County of Albany widow, Hendrick Van Nesse of the same place Yeoman, Gerritt Tunissen of Kattskill in the same county Yeoman, and Jacobus Van Cortland of the City of New Yorke Marchant by Virtue of my Lycence Consent and approbacion have Purchased of and from the Indiyans Naturall owners and Possessors of the same all that Tract of Land with its appurtenances Scituate Lyeing & being above Albany on both sides of a Certaine Creek Called Hossick begining att the Bounds of Schackoock and from thence extending to the said Creeke to a Certaine fall Called Quequick and from the said fall upwards along the Creek to a Certaine Place Called Nachawickquaak being in Breadth on each side of the said Creek two English Miles that is to say two English Miles on the one side of the said Creek and two English Miles on the other side of the said Creek the whole breadth being fouer English Miles, and is in length from the bounds off Schackoock aforesaid to the said place called Nachawickquaak; paying therefore unto his said Matie, his Heirs and Successors yearly, and every yeare, the quantity of ten bushells of good sweett marchantable Winter Wheat, to be Delivered att the Cltty of Albany unto such officer or officers as shall from time to time be Empowred to Receive the same as a Quitt Rent.

The patent is dated the "Second Day of June in the fourth Yeare of his Matis Reigne and in the Yeare our Lord, 1688."

This territory extended along both sides of the Hoosick river, being the middle portion of the present town of Hoosick, stretching from

the north bounds to the southern limits of the town.

THE WALLOOMSAC PATENT.

This conveyance of 12,000 acres of land begins as follows :

George the Second, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting Whereas our loving subjects, Cornelius Van Ness, John Lindesay, Gerrardus Stuyvesant, Stephen Rensselaer, Charles Williams and Frederick Morris by their humble [petitions] presented on the twenty-fifth day of August in the Year Seventeen hundred and thirty-two To William Cosby, Esq'r, our Late Governor and Commander in Chief of our Province of New York, &c., in Council Have Set forth that the Native Indians and Proprietors of Certain Lands in the County of Albany had by their Deed under their Hands and Seals bearing Date the twenty-eight day of January, in the Year Seventeen hundred and thirty-one Granted and Released unto us all that Certain Tract or Parcel of Land Containing twelve thousand acres of land, etc. * * * Whereas James De Lancey, Esq'r., our Chief Justice of our said Province and Edward Collins Gent by their humble Petn, presented to our trusty and welbeloved George Clarke, Esq'r., now our Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Province, &c. In Council on the Seventeenth day of May Inst, have set forth that in the said Petition which was presented as aforesaid to our said late Governor the Name of John Lindesay was made use of therein in Trust for the said James De Lancey and the Name of Cornelius Van Ness in Trust for the said Edward Collins.

In accordance with this petition the grant was made to "Edward Collins, James De Lancey, Gerrardus Stuyvesant, Stephen Rensselaer, Charles Williams and Frederick Morris," conveying to them

All that Certain Tract or Parcel of Land Called Wallumschack situate lying and being in the county of Albany to the Eastward of a Place Called Hoseck, beginning at a Certain marked Tree which is 117 chains distant from the late Dwelling House of Garret Cornelius Van Ness, measured on a Line Running South 75° east from the Southeast Corner of the said House to the said Tree and running from the said marked Tree North 30° 30' West 90 Chains and 40 links then North 40° 15' East 220 chains then North 77° East 90 chains then South 31° 40' East 604 chains then South 65° West 92 chains then North 44° 30' West 150 chains then North 75° west 129 Chains then North 48° West 146 Chains then South 60° West 173 Chains and then North 4° West 76 Chains to the place where this Tract of Land first began Containing twelve thousand acres of Land and the usual allowance for Highways. * * *

In this patent, "all Trees of the Diameter of twenty-four inches and upwards at twelve

Inches from the Ground" were excepted "for Masts for our Royal Navy, and also all such other Trees as may be fit to make planks, Knees and other things Necessary for the use of our Said Navy only, which now are Standing Growing and being or at any time hereafter shall be Standing Growing, or being in or upon the above Granted Lands or any part thereof."

* * "The Yearly Rent of two shillings and six pence for each hundred acres of the above Granted Lands" was to be paid at the custom house in the city of New York, on Lady Day, the annunciation of the blessed virgin Mary.

The patent is dated the 15th of June, in the thirteenth year of George II.'s reign, and in the year 1739. The tract of land given by this patent lies in the northeastern part of the town of Hoosick.

THE SCHNEYDER PATENT.

The patent granted to Hendrick Schneyder, John Wettck, Hendrick Lake, John Johnson, Garret Williamson, Nathaniel Archerly, Benjamin Abbot, William Taylor and Martinus Voorheis, all of the province of New Jersey, and Daniel Hallenbeck of the city of Albany, embraced :

All that certain Tract or parcell of land situate lying and being in the county of Albany on the East side of Hudson's river, Beginning at the Southwest corner of a Tract of land granted to Cornelius Van Ness and others, known by the name of Wallumschack and runs thence South 75° east 218 chains to another corner of the aforesaid tract called Wallumschack, then along the South bounds of the last mentioned Tract, south 75° east 129 chains, and South 42° 30' east 150 chains, then south 241 chains to the north bounds of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, then along the said North Bounds of the said Manor west 42 chains, then north 35° west 125 chains, then west to the east bounds of a tract of Land granted to Maria Van Rensselaer, Hendrick Van Ness and others commonly called and known by the name of Hoseck, and then along the said east bounds of the said tract called Hoseck to the place where this tract first began containing 10,000 acres of land and the usual allowance for highways.

Two shillings and six pence sterling were to be paid yearly at the custom house in the city of New York, on Lady day, for each and every hundred acres of the above granted land. The patent is dated March 24, 1762.

THE FIRST SETTLERS.

Among the early settlers of the territory now embraced in the town of Hoosick were Hendrick Van Ness, Abraham Fort, Lewis and Peter Vicle, Adam Vrooman, John Van Buskirk, Walter Van Vechten, Jacob Oudekirk, Daniel Bradt, Reykert Bowie, Jan Outhout.

The farms of these intrepid pioneers of the Hoosick valley were mostly adjacent the Hoosick river. As was common to frontier life in North America at this early period of its history, the constantly occurring sanguinary struggles between the English and French governments brought very frequent distresses to these forest homes in the great wilderness north of Albany. When the English ministry in the spring of 1743 ordered Gov. Clinton of the province of New York to make immediate preparations for carrying on an offensive war against the French and their Indian allies, great alarm at once began to prevail among the frontier settlers of the province. The wary and sudden attacks from the hostile Indians associated with the French, made life in these exposed positions almost a burden to the Dutch farmers, whose minds were more intent on the cultivation of the land on which they had recently built log houses for their families than on the bloody strife which brought so much distress and loss to them. Col. Schuyler and Major Collins, who commanded a body of soldiers at Saratoga, now Schuylerville, were compelled to abandon the construction of six block houses which they were building as places of protection for the settlers against the sudden attacks of the Indians. When the calamitous visitation came upon the peaceful settlers those who escaped massacre fled southward to the older settlements. It is said that even Kinderhook, Claverack and Poughkeepsie, although on the east side of the Hudson were not exempt from danger. A vast forest extended from Kinderhook to Canada, and the settlement of Hoosick was made in a part of it.

In 1747 four companies of soldiers were posted at Halfmoon, two at Schaghticoke and three at old Saratoga, now Schuylerville. The main force was stationed at Albany. In October, 1747, peace was concluded between Great Britain and France, and the dispersed farmers shortly afterwards returned to their abandoned farms.

THE TRIBULATIONS OF THE SETTLERS IN 1754.

As will appear from the following correspondence the early settlers were again molested, and were a second time compelled to flee from their farms on account of the invasions of the province by the French and their hired savages.

In a letter to the English lords of trade, Lieut.-Gov. De Lancey writes as follows on October 8, 1754:

On the 28th August a Party of French Indians said to be of Bekancourt, a place between Quebec and Montreal, made an incursion into this Province

and burnt the houses and Barns full of grain at Hoosick, a place lying about 10 or 20 miles East from that part of Hudson's River, which is 10 Miles above Albany; they carried off with them the few remaining Indians of Seachtacook, being between fifty and sixty in Number, Men, Women and Children; these had a little before, when I was at Albany, assured me of their fidelity. The Indians who did this mischief live among the French, and are entirely under the direction of the General of Canada, so that there is no room to doubt of their being encouraged to this barbarity by him, especially as the French officer at Crown Point furnished them and the Seachtacook Indians, whom they had drawn from this province, with a vessel to carry them back to Canada across the Lake Champlain.

In another letter addressed to the same persons, dated New York, October 21, 1754, he remarks he had omitted to say in his letter of the 8th what steps he had taken since the incursions of the French Indians into the province: "I immediately ordered the city of Albany to be inclosed with Stockadoes in the places where wanting, the Blockhouses to be repaired, two hundred Men of each Regiment of Militia of the adjoining counties to be held in readiness to march, and the whole Regiment in case of need, to the assistance of Albany. I sent the independent Company posted in Fort George in this City to Albany, detaining a sergeant and the Invalids to do the Fort duty; and had also directed a fort to be built at a Pass on the Hudson River about forty miles above Albany, but no workmen would undertake it on the credit of the Governr."

BARBARITIES COMMITTED BY THE FRENCH.

The reprehensible conduct of the French in instigating the Indians to invade the peaceful Hoosick valley, and there murder and lead into captivity so many innocent people, was thus censured by Lieut. Gov. De Lancey, in a letter to the governor of Canada, dated New York, October 16, 1754:

I have received accounts from Albany that several of the Indians of the Orondacks and other Tribes domiciled within your government, and as I have been well informed entirely in your direction, have lately made incursions into this and the Neighboring provinces and have burnt and destroyed the Houses and Barns of the Poor Farmers living at and near Hoosick within my government: this, in a time of profound peace between His Britannick and Most Christian Majesty, is a practice so Barbarous as I think is not warranted by any orders, and I persuade myself will not be approved of by the Most Christian King; and I would willingly flatter myself, could not have been done by the encouragement of a person of your Excellency's Rank and Character, and yet you will permit me to say, it is with difficulty

I can conceive, that those Indians would have attempted this piece of cruelty without your privity and connivance since those Indians live among the French and are under your direction, what adds to the difficulty is, that I am told the commanding officer at Fort St. Frederick furnished these Indians and those of Schactacook whom they had taken with them with a vessel to carry them back to Canada. I am in duty bound to lay these things before the King my Master.

Speaking of the defenselessness of the northern part of the province, the lieutenant governor thus writes to Sir Thomas Robinson, dated New York, December 15, 1754:

I think it my duty to lay before you the defenseless state of the northern frontiers of this province, and to point out some measures which seem to me of general utility. From Albany northwards towards Canada there is no fort; we had one before and in the late war at a place on Hudson's river called Saraghtogo (Schuylerville), about 36 miles above Albany, which was abandoned and destroyed, so that the country lies entirely open.

He then proposes that forts should be built: "one at Wood creek and one on the south end of Lake St. Sacrament: the waters of this creek and lake pass Crown Point and fall into the Lake Champlain, and so into the river St. Lawrence, and make the common passage between this country and Montreal, and from this creek and lake the French and their Indians can and do enter this province, Massachusetts bay and New Hampshire."

For a number of years the successive terrors of Indian and French animosities deterred new settlers from making any further efforts to occupy the territory of the Hoosick valley. But in time treaties of peace were made and emigrants began to seek homes along the Hoosick and its tributary streams.

ST. CROIX.

It is believed that the French in their various incursions into the Hoosick valley had given to the small settlement in the vicinity of the confluence of the Walloomsac with the Hoosick river the name of St. Croix. The former stream is often designated as the St. Coic or Walloomscoic river. There seems to have been a very careless way of writing the name of the place, for often it appears as Sancoik, St. Coych, Sancoick, St. Hoick, Sancoix and Saintcoix. The hamlet before the dark days of the revolutionary war is said to have contained a grist mill, saw mill, a pot ashery, a tavern, a meeting house and a number of farm houses.

THE HOOSICK DISTRICT.

By "an act to divide the counties of Albany and Tryon into districts," passed March 24,

1772, the Hoosick district was erected. Its boundaries were the following:

That all that part of the said county of Albany which lays to the northward of Rensselaerwyck district to the southward of the said line from the mouth of Lewis's creek or kill, continued to the west bounds of the county of Cumberland to the eastward of Schactekoke district and to the westward of the county of Cumberland, shall be one separate and distinct district, and be henceforth called and known by the name of Hoosick district.

THE INVASION OF BURGOTNE.

When in the summer of 1777 Gen. Burgoyne was making almost an unopposed invasion of the northern part of New York from Canada, the people of the Hoosick valley were greatly alarmed by the reports of the barbarous cruelties of the Indians which the British commander had sent forward as a band of terror to the rebellious people. In the vicinity of Fort Edward he dispatched Col. Frederick Baum on a "secret expedition to the Connecticut river," having been informed that the Americans had gathered together there "a considerable depot of cattle, cows, horses and wheel carriages, most of which were driven across the Connecticut river from the provinces of New England; and, as it was understood to be guarded by a party of militia only, an attempt to surprise it seemed by no means unjustifiable." He received of Burgoyne instructions on August 9th, that he was "to try the affections of the country; to disconcert the councils of the enemy; to mount the Riedesel's dragoons; to complete Peters's corps; and to obtain large supplies of cattle, horses and carriages." Having performed these and other things mentioned in the instructions he was then, in order to form a junction with the main army of Burgoyne, to proceed expeditiously with his force "by the great road to Albany." Col. Baum departed on this mission with about 500 Hessian mercenaries, Canadians, Tories and Indians and two cannon. Col. Philip Skene accompanied Col. Baum for the purpose of advising him "upon all matters of intelligence." On the 14th of August, Baum reached the little settlement at Sancoik. Here, in a grist mill, on Little White creek, a small stream emptying into the Walloomsac, he wrote a letter to Burgoyne regarding his progress:

SANCOIK, 14th August, 1777. 9 o'clock—Sir: I have the honor to inform your excellency that I arrived here at eight in the morning, having had intelligence of a party of the enemy being in possession of a mill, which they abandoned at our approach, but, in their usual way, fired from the bushes and took their road to Bennington. A savage was slightly wounded; they broke down the

bridge, which has retarded our march over an hour; they left in the mill about 78 barrels of very fine flour, 1,000 bushels of wheat, 20 barrels of salt, and about £1,000 worth of pearlsh and potash. I have ordered 30 provincials and an officer to guard the provisions and the pass of the bridge. By five prisoners taken here, they agree that from 1,500 to 1,800 are at Bennington, but are supposed to leave it on our approach. I will proceed so far to-day as to fall on the enemy early to-morrow, and make such dispositions as I may think necessary from the intelligence I may receive. People are flocking in hourly, but want to be armed. The savages cannot be controlled, they ruin and take everything they please. I am your excellency's most humble servant,
F. BAUM.

P. S.—Beg your excellency to pardon the hurry of this letter, as it is written upon the head of a barrel.

The mill in which this letter was written is still standing, it is said, and that on one of the timbers of the structure there is to be seen the inscription "A. D. 1776," the supposed date of the erection of the building.

THE BATTLE OF WALLOOMSAC.

On the night of the 14th of August, Baum "bivouacked at the farm of Walmscott, about four miles from Sancoick, and three from Bennington." On the 15th there was "a perfect hurricane of wind," and a great fall of rain. During the day the skirmishers of the provincial militia under Gen. John Stark several times drew the fire of the British pickets. Meanwhile Col. Baum took a position on an eminence near the "farm of Walmscott." "He posted here the dragoons, with a portion of the marksmen on their right, in rear of a little zig-zag breastwork, composed of logs and loose earth. Such of the detached (houses of which there were about half a dozen log ones) as came within the compass of his position he filled with Canadians, supporting them with detachments of chasseurs and grenadiers, likewise intrenched behind breastworks; and he kept the whole, with the exception of about 100 men, on the north side of the stream, holding the woods upon his flanks, in his front and rear by the Indians."

Gen. Stark with his brigade of New Hampshire militia and a number of companies of Vermont and Massachusetts militia, on the morning of the 16th, moved against Baum in the position taken by the latter on the 15th. Gen. Stark, in his report of the engagement, says:

I divided my army into three divisions, and sent Col. Nichols with 250 men on the rear of their left wing, Col. Herrick in the rear of their right with 300 men. * * * In the meantime I sent 300 men to oppose the enemy's front to draw their atten-

tion that way. Soon after I detached the Col. Hulbert and Stokney on their right wing, with 200 men, to attack that part, all of which plans had their desired effect. Col. Nichols sent me word that he stood in need of a reinforcement, which I readily granted, consisting of 100 men, at which time he commenced the attack, precisely at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, which was followed by all the rest. I pushed forward the remainder with all speed. Our people behaved with the greatest spirit and bravery imaginable. Had they been Alexanders or Charles of Sweden they could not have behaved better. The action lasted two hours, at the expiration of which time we forced their breastworks at the muzzle of their guns, took two pieces of brass cannon, with a number of prisoners, but before I could get them into proper form again I received intelligence that there was a large reinforcement within two miles of us, on their march, which occasioned us to renew our attack. But lucky for us, Col. Warner's regiment came up, which put a stop to their career. We soon rallied, and in a few minutes the action began very warm and desperate, which lasted till night. We used their own cannon against them, which proved of great service to us. At sunset we obliged them to retreat a second time. We pursued them till dark, when I was obliged to halt for fear of killing my own men. We recovered two pieces more of their cannon, together with all their baggage, a number of horses, carriages, etc., killed upwards of 300 of the enemy in the field of battle. The number of wounded is not yet known, as they are scattered about in many places. I have one lieutenant-colonel, since dead, one major, seven captains, fourteen lieutenants, four ensigns, two cornets, one judge-advocate, one baron, two Canadian officers, six sergeants, one aid-de-camp and seven hundred prisoners. I almost forgot one Hessian chaplain. * * * Our wounded are forty-two. Ten privates and four officers belonging to my brigade are dead. The dead and wounded in the other corps I do not know, as they have not brought in their returns yet.

In the engagement Col. Baum was shot through the body and mortally wounded.

THE FIGHT AT THE BRIDGE OF SANCOICK.

Col. Breyman, who had been sent by Burgoyne to reinforce Col. Baum, reached the "mill at St. Cok" at half-past 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 16th, being then only two miles distant from the main body of the British forces then engaged by the force under Gen. Stark. He had not marched but a little ways beyond "the bridge of Sancoick" when he saw through the woods "a considerable number of armed men, some of whom wore blouses and some jackets" moving toward a hill on his left. In a very short time he came upon a portion of Baum's force in retreat, but he having

reformed the men was about to push on toward the place where Baum had been engaged. At this juncture he was attacked by Stark and shortly after by a reinforcement under Col. Warren, by which he was soon forced to retreat toward Cambridge. To obstruct the advance of the Americans, Breyman set fire to the bridge at "St. Coyk." It was in this last engagement that for the second time that day the Americans took two cannon from the routed British. Among the different points of interest shown visitors viewing the battle ground are the old grist mill of David Van Rensselaer, who fled to Albany on the approach of the English, and where Baum wrote his letter. The mill, at North Hoosick, is now owned by John G. Burk; "Hessian hill" is now a part of the farm of Seymour C. Gooding, the place of Baum's selection on the 15th; the ridge beyond the village of Walloonsac where Breyman was routed; and the spot where the body of Baum's men was captured being in the vicinity of the residence of William P. Chace, not far from North Hoosick.

THE ERECTION OF THE TOWN OF HOOSICK.

By "an act for dividing the counties of this state into towns," passed by the legislature, March 7, 1788, the town of Hoosick was erected. Its limits were the following:

All that part of said county of Albany bounded easterly by the east bounds of this state, southerly by Stephentown, westerly by Pittstown, and northerly by the north line of Schaghticoke and Pittstown continued, to the east bounds of this state, shall be and hereby is erected into a town by the name of Hoosick.

TOWN OFFICERS OF 1789.

The record of the town officers of 1789 is the oldest preserved paper of the proceedings of the town meetings. It furnishes the following names of the officers selected that year:

Supervisor, Thomas Sickles; town clerk, Zachariah W. Sickles; assessors, Jacob Van Ness, Henry Breese, Nicholas Snyder, Reuben Thayer, Isaac Bull, John Johnson, Zachariah W. Sickles; collector, Henry Brown; commissioners of highways, Thomas Sickles, William Kerr, Nicholas Snyder; overseers of the poor, Ebenezer Arnold, William Kerr; constables, Henry Brown, Squire Read, Henry Walker, Samuel Latham; fence-viewers, James Williamson, Henry Snyder, John Van Buren, Henry Breese, John Van Ness, Zachariah W. Sickles, Godfrey Stark, Asel Gray; pound-keepers, Squire Read, Harper Rogers, Timothy Graves, Benjamin Waite; pathmasters, John Mil-Eman, Samuel Latham, John Ryan, Anthony V. Surdam, George Nichols, Samuel Surdam, Garrett Van Horn, Isaac H. Lansing, Daniel Rogers, John Boyle, Godfrey Stark, Jonathan Case, Ezekiel Hodges, Jonathan Mosely, William Briggs, William

Mellen, Jr., David Brown, John Johnson, Luke Frink.

THE WAR OF 1812.

The loyalty of the people of the town of Hoosick was conspicuously exhibited during the existence of the hostilities between Great Britain and the United States in 1812-15. Volunteers patriotically sought positions in the ranks of the various military organizations which bore honorable record during the war. Among these were Benjamin Baker, Clark Baker, Ebenezer Cross, Jacob Case, Job Cass, Stephen Chapman, Talman Chace, William Coon, Garret Hallenbeck, John Hallenbeck, John H. Hayes, Jacob Haight, William Palmer, Lemuel Sherwood, Benjamin G. Sweet, Isaac Webb, Edward Webb, John Walworth, Reuben H. Walworth and Solomon Wilson. The memorable expedition in September, 1777, for the defense of Plattsburgh, under command of Brig. Gen. Gilbert Eddy, formed for years an interesting subject of conversation to the members of the militia organizations who took part in it. The militia of the town were represented by Capt. Thomas Osborne's artillery company, Capt. Abram Keach's company of infantry, that of Capt. Nathaniel Bosworth, and one company of volunteers under Capt. George R. Davis.

THE DUTCH CHURCH AT SANCKOYCK.

It would seem that at a very early date there was a Reformed Protestant Dutch church in the town of Hoosick. In the Albany county clerk's office a certificate of incorporation is filed which recites that the elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch congregation established at Schaghticoke became on the 25th day of February, 1789, the officers of another church which was then organized in the town of Hoosick, the corporate title of which was "The minister, elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Church of Sanckoyck." The certificate is signed by Cornelius Van Ness, Philip Van Ness, David Becker and Lewis van Woert. It is said that Cornelius Van Ness gave the piece of land on which the church was built. The building, it is said, was erected on the south side of the Cambridge road, near where is now the residence of Mrs. David Gooding. The old building remained in a dilapidated condition until about the year 1825, when it was torn down. There are no records apparently preserved of this old church.

THE REFORMED PROTESTANT CHURCH AT TIOSSOOK.

Some time previous to the month of August, 1791, there was a small religious society worshipping at "Teasoak" in the town of Hoosick.

This fact is shown from an old and well-preserved document which reads :

Where as the Revd Mr. Samuel Smith of Saratoga hast in time Past showed his Willingness to serve us in the Gospo one Fourth part of a Yeare for the Neighborhood of Teasoak on Both sides of the River Each an Equel Chance to Preach one half of the Time on the One Side of the River and the Rest part of the time on the other Side of the River.

We to show our Readiness to have and our Willingness to Communicate to him such Sum as Teacheth in Such Things as are Necessary for his Support having affixed our Names such Sums as God has Given us Ability and hearts to bestow on him who may be sent to labour Among us.

TEASOAK August 10th 1791.

Then follow the names of the subscribers and the sums which they contribute: Philip van Ness, £2; Lewis Violey, £1.10s; Martin van Buskirk, £1.16s; Peter Violey, £1; Francis S. Pruyn, £1; Walter van Vechten, £1; Richard v. Buskirk, 8s; John van Buskirk, 18s; Joseph v. Buskirk, 4s; Samuel Brown, 9s; John Bratt, £1; Abraham I. Fort, 8s; Timothy Tomes, 4s; Peter D. Goes, 12s; Cor's. Sebring, 4s; Nicholas W. Groesbeck, 10s; Winant C. Van Denbergh, 16s.

In January, 1792, a further sum of £30.8s is subscribed by 58 persons as the salary of the Rev. Samuel Smith for serving them "in the gospel one-fourth part of the year."

On May 2, 1792, it was determined by the congregation that the church should be "in communion with the reverend classis of Albany and the reverend Reformed Protestant Dutch synod of New York and New Jersey." At this meeting Philip Van Ness and Lewis Violey were elected elders and John S. Quackenboss and Peter Violey deacons.

The congregation having given the Rev. Samuel Smith of Saratoga a call to become pastor of the church on July 2, 1792, the same was accepted by letter, July 13, 1792. The letter is addressed to "The Reverend Consistory of Tiossook."

In the fall of 1793 the house in which the society met being too small and inconvenient it was determined that the congregation in the ensuing season would build a church "on the south side of the river, on Mr. Peter Violey's land."

On the 15th of February, 1794, the consistory contracted with Tenis Van Der Werken and Abram Clute "to frame and inclose a church 35x40 feet, and lay the upper floor," etc. Twelve windows and a gallery were several of the appointments of the building. Forty-five pounds was the sum paid for this part of the work. On the 1st of September, 1794, Daniel Bratt contracted to finish the inside work for

£17. "The pulpit and the seats of the clerk and consistory were to be made like the church in Seeticoak."

In 1823 a new church was erected at Buskirk's Bridge, which was dedicated on the 2d of May of that year. This edifice was enlarged in 1872.

The following pastors have served this congregation: The Revs. Samuel Smith, Peter D. Froleigh, Stephen Ostrander, Abram J. Switz, J. H. Pitcher, H. Hermance, A. T. Searles, J. B. Shaw, F. A. Gardner, P. Furbeck, and from December 1875, the Rev. J. G. Ogden. The number of the present membership of this old church is 64.

THE HOOSICK BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church, which was first known as the Mapleton Baptist church, was organized March 16, 1785. In 1810 its name was changed to that of the Hoosick church. About the year 1835 the congregation became disorganized and ceased to have any regular pastor. The pastors connected with this congregation were the Rev. Samuel Rogers, the Rev. David Rathbun, the Rev. James Glass, the Rev. Thomas Purington, the Rev. I. Keach, the Rev. Obed Warren, the Rev. Isaac Webb, the Rev. George Witherell and the Rev. I. Keach.

BAPTIST CHURCH AT HOOSICK CORNERS.

Many of the Baptist families residing near Hoosick village, finding it inconvenient for them to attend the services at the Baptist church in the Mapleton neighborhood, erected a church about the year 1831 on the hill north of the hamlet. The Rev. Isaac Keach was the first pastor of this church. The subsequent pastors were: The Rev. Archibald Kenyon, 1840-41; the Rev. J. B. Wilkins, 1842-43; the Rev. J. Mitchell, 1844; the Rev. C. G. Gurr, 1846-48; the Rev. Wm. Arthur, 1849-52; the Rev. H. D. Doolittle, 1853. Between the years 1854 and 1864 a number of pastors filled the pulpit. The Rev. Thomas Rogers was pastor from 1864 to 1870, who was succeeded by the Revs. Conover, Raymond and Hill. In September, 1878, the Rev. Thomas Rogers again was called to the pastorate. About the year 1840 a new building was erected in the village at a cost of \$12,000.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AT HOOSICK FALLS.

The First Baptist church of Hoosick Falls was organized October 30, 1847. On the 8th of May, 1851, at a meeting held at the place of worship, John Lyon, Jonathan Case, Allen Spencer, Hosea Daniels and Edmund Leonard were elected trustees of the Hoosick Falls Baptist church. The certificate of incorporation is dated May 16, 1851.

The following have been the pastors of the church: The Rev. John M. Gregory, 1847-50; supplies for several years, the Revs. Grant and Thos. Rogers from Hoosick Corners; the Rev. O. C. Kirkham, 1860-63; the Rev. Thos. Rogers, the Rev. William A. Doolittle, the Rev. William Wilcox, the Rev. William Garnet, 1867-69; the Rev. E. T. Hunt, 1869-73; the Rev. A. B. Whipple, 1872-74; the Rev. H. W. Webber, 1874; the Rev. H. A. Morgan, 1875-76; 1876 to present time, the Rev. George R. Robbins.

This congregation has occupied since its organization "the meeting-house" of the Warren society, erected in 1800. The roll of the present membership shows the names of about 200 persons.

THE WARREN SOCIETY.

In 1800 the first meeting-house for religious worship was erected at Hoosick Falls. The ground on which the wooden edifice was built was the property of Sylvester Noble. The latter conveyed it, April 6, 1804, to John Ryan, Benjamin Walworth, Samuel Burrell and Joseph Dorr, for 50 cents consideration money. The indenture recites that "the said John, Benjamin, Samuel and Joseph * * * with the said Sylvester Noble * * * were on the 17th of February, in the year A. D. 1800, appointed a committee for the purpose of building a meeting-house near the Falls Quick Quack, * * * with express directions to secure a good and sufficient title to the land on which the said house was to stand, for and on behalf of the proprietors to the said house, being now members of a society denominated Warren society." The lot purchased was "on the south line of a lot called the parade lot. The lot was 74 by 114 feet. The Warren society, it is believed, took its name from the Rev. Obed Warren, a noted Baptist missionary of the town of Warren, R. I., where, about the year 1767, the first New England Baptist society was organized. The first holders of pews in the meeting-house were Sylvester Noble, John Ryan, Benjamin Walworth, Samuel Burrell, Joseph Dorr, Daniel Noble, Thomas Osborne, John Comstock, Elam Buel, Reuben Faxon, Daniel Comstock, Joseph Coon, Abram Keach, Benjamin Lewis, John Mattison, Edward Richmond, James Brown, David Wing, Jacob Martin, Richard Covell, Moses Armstrong, John Palmer, John Baker, A. D. Patchin, Nathaniel Bishop, Theophilus Comstock, Jacob A. Faxon, Josiah Buel, A. Cronkhite, Alex. Wilson, Edward Haynes, Jonathan Case, Timothy Graves, Samuel Cottlell, Thomas Eldridge, Rufus Johnson, Elijah Wallis, John Haviland, Ebenezer Cross, John Baker, Israel Starks and Henry Johnson.

Among the Baptist ministers serving the society successively were the Rev. Samuel Rogers, the Rev. David Rathbun, the Rev. James Glass, the Rev. Thomas Purrington, the Rev. Israel Keach, the Rev. Obed Warren, the Rev. Isaac Webb, the Rev. George Witherell, and the Rev. Israel Keach. About the year 1810 the society lost its organization.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF WEST HOOSICK.

The Baptist church of West Hoosick was legally constituted April 16, 1861. The first trustees were: Phillip Herrington, Stephen Paddock and Israel Shedd. The house of worship is known as the Union church, having been built by the general contribution of the people in that vicinity.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOOSICK FALLS.

On the 5th of January, 1825, a number of the inhabitants of Hoosick Falls assembled at the Warren meeting house, on Main street, and there organized a religious society by the name of the "Presbyterian society of Hoosick," and elected the following persons trustees: Timothy Graves, Garret T. Breese, John March, Harry Patterson, Samuel Burrell and Robert Haswell. In 1829 the congregation erected on Church street a frame meeting house, which, when finished, was dedicated by the Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., of Troy, the Rev. A. Peters of Bennington, Vt., and other Presbyterian ministers. This building cost about \$1,800 and had seats for about 300 persons. In 1854 the old building was removed, and the present church edifice was erected at a cost of about \$7,000 and having a seating capacity for about 500 persons. It was dedicated in the spring of 1854, the Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., of Troy, the Rev. J. H. Noble, D. D., of Schaghticoke and the Rev. A. M. Beveridge officiating. The membership of the church is about 150 and the Sunday school 140. The first Sunday school of Hoosick Falls was organized in 1825 by persons belonging to this congregation and those connected with the Warren society. Seth Parsons was the first superintendent.

The different pastors of this church have been the Rev. C. Cheever, 1825-26; the Rev. Samuel W. May, 1826-29; the Rev. Robert Shaw, 1830-31; the Rev. Luther P. Blodgett, 1831-36; the Rev. Leonard Johnson, 1837-39; the Rev. Thomas Gordon, 1841-50; the Rev. A. M. Beveridge, 1851-58; the Rev. A. De Witt, 1859-65; the Rev. J. B. Lambert, D. D., 1865-68, and the Rev. John Tatlock, 1868 to the present time.

ST. MARK'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF HOOSICK FALLS.

This religious society was organized in 1833

under the ministrations of the Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston. The first services were held in the village schoolhouse. On the first of November, 1834, the members of the church met at the place of worship for the purpose of incorporating themselves according to an act of the legislature. The Rev. N. O. Preston was made moderator of the meeting. George M. Tibbits and Salmon Moses were chosen church wardens, and L. Chandler Ball, Jonathan Eddy, jr., George M. Tibbits, Salmon Moses, Harry Patterson, Seth Parsons, Samuel Shaw Crocker, and Hezekiah Munsell, jr., elected vestrymen. These were incorporated as the rector, church wardens and vestrymen of St. Mark's Protestant Episcopal church in the village of Hoosick Falls. For a number of years thereafter the church continued to exist in a very weak way. In the year 1858 the society was reorganized, and shortly thereafter the erection of the present church was begun, the corner stone being laid in the summer of 1858 by the Right Rev. Bishop Horatio Potter. The first services were held in the church on Sunday, August 26, 1860. On the 5th of May, 1863, the building was consecrated. In 1871 an addition of a chapel arcade and a campanile was made to the building, which, the present year, has been further enlarged and remodelled. The bell, clock and chimes of the church were purchased at an expense of \$6,000. The rectors of the church have been the Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, the Rev. Ebenezer Williams, the Rev. James Henry Morgan, 1861-63; the Rev. George A. Weeks, 1863-65; the Rev. George Huntington Nicholls, from 1865 to the present time. There are about 175 names of communicants on the parish register.

THE TIBBITS PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT HOOSICK CORNERS.

The Protestant Episcopal church at Hoosick Corners was organized and a handsome church edifice costing about \$30,000 erected by the liberality of the late George M. Tibbits. The church is popularly designated as "the Tibbits church." The rector of the church is the Rev. John B. Tibbits. The church is not connected with any diocese.

THE WALLOOMSAC METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The members of the Methodist Episcopal church who early in the century had formed a society at Walloomsac, met on the 18th of April, 1811, at the house of Thomas Milliman, where they had been assembling for divine worship, and elected the following persons: John Matthews, Benjamin Barnett, Isaac Mosher, Thomas Milliman, Simeon Sweet and John Comstock as trustees of the Walloomsac

Methodist Episcopal church. On June 2, 1858, the church was reincorporated as "the Methodist Episcopal society of Hoosick circuit." Shortly after this time services were no longer continued at this point by the Methodists. It was known as the "up-river church."

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT HOOSICK FALLS.

This society was legally incorporated April 12, 1858. On that day the members of the congregation assembled at the place of worship, the meeting house of the Warren society, and elected Stephen Williams, William A. Stoncy, John V. Carney, Jesse F. Dunham and Asa Colgrove "trustees of the Methodist Episcopal society at the village of Hoosick Falls." In 1860 a frame church edifice was erected on Main street, in which services were first held on Christmas day of that year, at which time it was dedicated, the Rev. J. E. King, D. D., preaching the sermon on the occasion. The building cost about \$3,300 and had a seating capacity for 300 persons. It was further enlarged in 1877. The present membership embraces 270 persons. The pastors of the church have been the following: The Rev. Reuben Washburn, 1858; the Rev. Joseph Eames, 1859; the Rev. Jesse Brown, 1860; the Rev. A. Viele, 1861-62; the Rev. B. B. Loomis, 1863-65; the Rev. William H. Washburn, 1866-69; the Rev. George C. Morehouse, 1869-72; the Rev. J. K. Wager, 1872-74; the Rev. M. A. Senter, 1874-76; the Rev. George Skene, 1876-79; the Rev. William H. Meeker, 1879 to present time.

NORTH HOOSICK METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
The society known as the North Hoosick Methodist Episcopal church was organized, January 5, 1865, in the district school house, where religious services had been held by the Methodists for 30 years. The first trustees were William P. Chace, Warren Cox and Edward Spalding. In the summer of 1866 a frame church building was erected on the main street of the village of North Hoosick, which was on October 18 of that year used for worship and dedicated. The dedication services were performed in part by the Rev. Wm. Griffin, presiding elder, the Rev. Wm. H. Washburn, pastor in charge, the Rev. S. M. Merrill of North Adams, Mass., the Rev. John W. Carhart of Troy, and the Rev. Joel Eaton of Cambridge. The building cost about \$4,000, and had a seating capacity for 300 persons. In 1875 it was enlarged. The church has a membership of 50 persons. The following persons have been pastors of the church: The Rev. W. H. Washburn, 1865-69; the Rev. George C. Morehouse, 1869-72; the Rev. Joel K. Wager, 1872-75; the Rev. John W. Bellknap, 1875-76; the Rev.

Thomas Munroe, 1876; the Rev. Geo. A. Kerr, 1877; the Rev. M. F. Lee, 1878; the Rev. A. S. Clark, April, 1879, to the present time.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT BUSKIRK'S BRIDGE.

This society was organized near Buskirk's Bridge, March 8, 1843. Nicholas Eyclishymer was the first and prominent person to take part in its organization. A frame building for worship was erected in 1843 which was dedicated in June of that year. The present brick building was erected in 1859 on the ground where the first building stood. The new church was dedicated January 11, 1860. The following ministers participated in the dedicatory services: The Rev. Jacob Leonard, pastor in charge, the Revs. Lewis Potter, John B. Shaw, John P. Newman and Truman Seymour. The cost of the structure was \$4,191.72, the whole amount having been paid. It has a seating capacity for 4,000 persons. The following have been pastors of the church: The Rev. Jacob Leonard, one year; the Rev. Hiram Blanchard, two years; the Rev. G. G. Ford, two years; the Rev. F. A. Soule, two years; the Rev. John M. Webster, two years; Wm. Clark, three years; the Rev. J. B. Sylvester, one year; the Rev. R. G. Adams, one year; Wm. W. Foster, three years; the Rev. Wm. Earl, three years, and the Rev. D. M. Schell, 1880 to present time.

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AT HOOSICK FALLS.

As early as the year 1833, through the missionary efforts of various Roman Catholic priests there had been gathered quite a respectable congregation at Hoosick Falls of believers in the teachings of the Roman Catholic church. In 1849 the erection of a church on South Church street was begun by the Rev. Father Quigley, which was finished in 1851. In 1870-71 a larger edifice was built on Main street, the corner-stone having been laid on August 12, 1869. The church was dedicated December 10, 1871, by the Rev. T. Galberry. The present pastor of the church is the Rev. Father Waldron, assisted by the Rev. Father O'Farrell.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AT BUSKIRK'S BRIDGE.

At Buskirk's Bridge a Roman Catholic congregation was organized a number of years ago, and built a very neat and commodious house of worship. The Rev. Father Waldron has it included in his pastorate.

THE MAPLETON LIBERAL RELIGIOUS SOCIETY.

A number of the inhabitants of the southeastern part of the town of Hoosick, commonly called Mapleton, convened at the school house in school district No. 4 on Saturday, January

2, 1836, for the purpose of organizing a religious society to rebuild and reoccupy the site and premises where the old Mapleton meeting house was standing at that time. The persons assembled organized themselves under the name of the "Mapleton Liberal Religious Society." On the 23d of January, the following persons were elected trustees: Moses Armstrong, Joseph Percey, Daniel Rogers, David Wallace, James Percey, Lyman Andrews, Jonathan Hayner, Randall James and Garret Van Hoosen. It is often known by the name of the Union church. Various denominations hold meetings in the church.

HOOSICK FALLS.

The first known lease of land of the Hoosick patent, at Hoosick Falls, was made of 200 acres by Jonathan Fuller from Augustus Van Horne of New York. The survey of this tract began at a marked birch tree standing below the falls of Quequick. This farm was next conveyed to Henry Northup of North Kingston, R. I., who shortly after removed to it, where he lived until his death in 1797. The other part of the village west of Main street and east of the Hoosick river was a part of the farm of 250 acres belonging to Henry Barnhart. The first store in Hoosick Falls, it is said, was one opened in 1785 by Isaac Turner. In 1784 Joseph Dorr came to Hoosick Falls and leasing of Barnardus Bratt 280 acres of land together with all the water power on the north side of the river, began the erection of a carding and fulling mill. Subsequently a flax mill, a distillery and a saw mill were also erected there. Benjamin Colvin, about the year 1786, built a grist mill on the south side of the river. His successors were John Chase and Theophilus Comstock. In 1791 the first bridge was constructed over the river at Hoosick Falls. In 1822 the first postoffice was established in the place, Seth Parsons being made postmaster.

In 1823 Joseph Gordon, a Scotchman, built what was known as the Caledonian cotton factory on the south bank of the Hoosick river between the bridge and the grist mill. About 150 persons were employed in the factory. In 1827 the factory was purchased by Samuel S. Crocker, John Knickerbacker, John House of Waterford and Jacob Merritt of Troy. In 1838 this property was sold to the Walter A. Wood reaping and mowing machine company.

On April 14, 1827, the village of Hoosick Falls was incorporated, Seth Parsons being elected president of the board of trustees. It is said that at the time of its incorporation the population of the village was 200, the number of buildings 36, the electors 50, and the valuation of the property \$86,370.

In 1831 George W. and Lyman Benedict erected the Tremont cotton factory on the north side of the river. About 25,000 yards of cloth were manufactured weekly, the number of employes being about 70. In 1855 the property was sold to Walter A. Wood. The first stockholders of the Tremont cotton factory were Seth Parsons, H. Parsons, Lyman Wilder, Harry Patterson, Norman and Hiram Herrington of Hoosick Falls, Joseph Case of Petersburg, Daniel Wight of Troy, and Erastus Ball of New Orleans.

In 1836 the following description was given of the place in "Gordon's Gazetteer" of the state:

Hoosick Falls, 24 miles from Troy, on the right bank of the river, which has a fall here of 40 feet within 12 rods, affording fine water power, nearly all of which is unemployed, contains 1 Baptist and 1 Presbyterian churches, grist, saw, oil, carding and cloth dressing mills, 2 large cotton factories, a manufactory of shearing machines [of Lyman Wilder], which supplies with that article almost the whole of the United States; 1 tavern, four stores, and about 60 dwellings.

The Ball seminary, named in honor of L. Chandler Ball, was erected in 1842, at a cost of about \$4,500. It was incorporated April 11, 1843; the first trustees being L. Chandler Ball, Seth Parsons, Lyman Wilder, Harry Patterson, Adin Russell, Hial Parsons, Thomas Gordon, Andrew Russell, John White, William Palmer, Willard Herrington and John Renwick. In 1863 the property was given to school district No. 1 of the town of Hoosick.

The First National bank of Hoosick Falls, which began business May 3, 1880, has the following officers: President, T. J. Wallace; vice president, C. A. Cheney; cashier, Addison Getty. The capital of the bank is \$80,000.

WALTER A. WOOD'S WORKS.

The most celebrated manufactory of harvesting machines in the world is at Hoosick Falls. The immense establishment is the property of the Walter A. Wood mowing and reaping machine company, the officers of which are the Hon. Walter A. Wood, president; J. Russell Parsons, vice president; A. C. Geer, secretary; Willard Gay, treasurer; J. M. Rosebrooks, superintendent.

The history of these extensive works at which, during the months of June and July of the present year, were daily made and completed 114 perfect machines, and manufactured during this season 27,000 of the world-renowned harvesters, begins in the year when Walter A. Wood, a young man of vigorous mind and active body, came to Hoosick Falls and engaged himself as a journeyman machinist to work for Seth Par-

sors, being at the time 20 years of age. Subsequently he became interested in the manufacture of plows and other agricultural implements. In 1852, having carefully inspected the working of the combined mowing and harvesting machine patented by John H. Manny of Illinois, Walter A. Wood was induced to purchase a territorial right, and to begin the manufacture of the machines at Hoosick Falls. Besides occupying the old foundry building, he in 1855 purchased the old Tremont cotton factory. In 1858 Ball & Parsons, who had also been engaged since 1852 in manufacturing the same machines, quitted the business, leaving Walter A. Wood the only one to carry on this branch of manufacturing in Hoosick Falls. In 1859 finding that he needed more conveniences for his increasing business, Mr. Wood rented the mill formerly occupied by Ball and Parsons. In November, 1860, a disastrous fire swept away in flame all of the buildings. The same year the work of rebuilding began, and the new buildings erected on the site of the old ones were the next year noisy with the hum of machinery, and another period of manufacture began. "The Wood Mower," constructed by the mechanical ingenuity of Mr. Wood in 1859, was sent out among the farmers and achieved a notable success. In 1861 "the self-raking reaper," patented by Mr. Wood, which was farther perfected in 1863, added to his greater celebrity as a maker of excellent harvesters.

In 1870 a second fire swept away all the buildings. The Caledonia mill having been bought in 1869, became the workshop where most all the machines were constructed during the year 1870. From the date of this calamity new buildings have, from year to year, been erected, which now form this extensive manufacturing establishment.

The present stock company, known as the Walter A. Wood mowing and reaping machine company, was formed in 1865. From this time until 1879 various useful attachments and additions were made to the machines invented by Mr. Wood. In 1874 the wire self-binding harvester was brought out and achieved the signal success which has made the machines of the character known in all the grain-producing countries of the earth. Oliver Dalrymple, the great grain grower, employed in 1879, in harvesting his immense fields of grain, 106 of these machines, each of which reaped on an average 15 acres of grain a day.

A CONSTELLATION OF MEDALS.

Writing of the first trial of the Wood automatic twine binder in England, in October, 1879, on the farm of Simeon Leather, Delemere lodge, near Northwich, Cheshire, as

observant witness says: "I saw it make 500 sheaves without one stoppage, in the most perfect manner possible, at the rate of 27 sheaves per minute." The rightly merited praises bestowed upon these wonderful and useful machines have not only placed thousands and tens of thousands of them upon the great grain plains of the United States, but have carried them to those of Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, Australia and New Zealand. As the visitor inspects the 200 and more gold, silver and bronze medals handsomely displayed in the vice president's room, at the works at Hoosick Falls, awarded to Walter A. Wood as testimonials of the unexcelled merits of his harvesting machines, he cannot but think that "worth makes the man." In field competitions between American and European reaping machines in Europe, the Wood harvesters took 207 first prizes. The brilliancy of this honorable mention is further increased by the Wood machines during the same time taking 109 first prizes on other fields of competition against all the leading machines. In 1876 at the centennial exhibition he obtained the highest awards for his harvesters. Austria conferred upon him the knight's cross of the imperial order of Francis Joseph, and France, in 1869, decorated him with the cross of the chevalier of the legion of honor, and in 1878 added two gold medals and the cross of officer of the legion of honor—the highest award of honor. The amazing record of the machines manufactured since 1853 at the Hoosick Falls establishment is the following:

1853.....	500	1868.....	17,500
1854.....	600	1869.....	23,000
1855.....	1,200	1870.....	15,000
1856.....	2,500	1871.....	15,771
1857.....	3,500	1872.....	17,097
1858.....	4,500	1873.....	20,715
1859.....	5,500	1874.....	20,430
1860.....	6,000	1875.....	23,507
1861.....	6,500	1876.....	23,836
1862.....	5,500	1877.....	19,971
1863.....	6,500	1878.....	25,065
1864.....	7,500	1879.....	24,920
1865.....	8,500	1880.....	27,963
1866.....	10,500		
1867.....	11,500	Total.....	354,915

The monthly pay roll is \$45,000, the number of regular employes being about 1,000.

SOCIETIES IN HOOSICK FALLS.

The masonic association was first represented at Hoosick Falls by Federal lodge No. 33 F. and A. M., which was organized September 8, 1792, and which erected and dedicated a masonic hall in the place October 6, 1824. It forfeited its warrant during the anti-masonic excitement in 1822. Among the founders of the lodge were Thomas Sickles, William Castle, Robert Sim, Henry Ten Brock, Samuel Cray, Stephen Read, Barney Read, Solomon King, William Roberts, Abraham Van Tuyl, Enoch Stall, Andrew

White, Benjamin Hawks, George Eager, James Fairbairn, Henry Brown, William Brue, Thomas Hartwell, and Jonathan Chase.

Van Rensselaer lodge No. 400 F. and A. M. received its dispensation in 1856 and held its first meeting February 26 of that year.

The warrant to open and hold a mark lodge by the name of Hoosick mark lodge was granted on February 3, 1807. In 1825 and 1826 dispensations were granted; and on February 12 1869, one was issued to open and hold Raymond chapter, U. D., at Hoosick Falls. The first convocation was held February 18, 1869. The dispensation was renewed June 18, 1870, and a charter granted February 8, 1871, to Raymond chapter 248.

The independent order of Odd Fellows is represented by Hoosick Falls lodge No. 490. The Knights of Pythias have also a lodge.

The temperance cause is represented by the Continental Temple of Honor, No. 21, and a Father Matthew T. A. B. society, No. 1. There is also the ancient order of Hibernians, No. 1, and the Robert Emmett association, No. 1.

The Mower and Reaper band, organized in 1857, has earned an excellent musical reputation.

The Hoosick Falls veteran association was organized about the year 1873. On the 30th of May, 1878, the town having voted \$800 and the village \$500, a beautiful soldiers' marble monument was erected at the intersection of Classic and High streets. The inscription on the monument reads: "The Citizens of the town of Hoosick hold in grateful remembrance the men who fought to save the Union. 1861—1865." The total cost of the monument was \$1,500.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper issued at Hoosick Falls was the Hoosick Falls *Gazette*, published by A. C. Eddy about the year 1843. This paper had been known previously as the *Cambridge Valley News*. It was published about one year. Subsequently, about the year 1869 the Hoosick Falls *Independent* was published for a year by — Botsford.

The *Rensselaer County Standard* was first issued, at Hoosick Falls, Nov. 15, 1873, by James H. Livingston, editor and proprietor.

On the 6th of March, 1880, the paper became the property of Benjamin Horsley, who ably continues its publication.

THE WILDER COLLECTION.

For many years the large and splendid collection of minerals made by Lyman Wilder was one of the chief attractions of Hoosick Falls for visitors. They were tastefully displayed in an octagonal shaped building south of the min-

eralogist's residence. Being the finest and largest collection in the United States, Williams college through the liberality of Dr Edward Clark of Cooperstown, who purchased it for the nominal sum of \$8,000 in 1873, became possessed of this grand cabinet of nature's handiwork. Mr. Wilder is now in his eighty-third year, and is still all aglow with the early enthusiasm which for years impelled him to give many of his hours of rest after the labors of the day to perfecting this unequalled collection of beautiful crystals, fossils, etc.

THE HOOSICK FALLS MALLEABLE IRON WORKS.

These works were originated by a stock company with a capital of \$40,000, in 1871; Isaac G. Johnson of New York, president, and William Nicholls of Hoosick Falls, secretary and treasurer. The establishment is situated about a mile from the village on the Troy and Boston railroad. About 70 employes are regularly engaged in the production of agricultural implements, carriage fixtures, carpenters' tools, etc.

The lawn mower manufactory of Lyman Wilder, near the Walter A. Wood works, also adds to the manufacturing interests of Hoosick Falls.

The fire department is represented by the Seth Parsons steamer company.

The present population of the village is 4,640.

HOOSICK.

This place is situate on the Hoosick river and on the line of the Troy and Boston railroad and the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railway, and was the first postoffice, about 1785, in the town of Hoosick, when stages ran between Troy and Bennington, on the turpiket that lay through it. Asher Armstrong was postmaster here from 1800 to 1832. In 1836 the place had 1 Baptist church, 2 taverns, 3 stores and about 30 dwellings. The village at present contains 2 churches, 1 Baptist and 1 Protestant Episcopal, 2 hotels, 3 stores, 1 button factory, 2 grist mills, 2 saw mills, 1 flax mill, 2 blacksmith shops and 1 wagon-maker shop. There are about 140 buildings in the village, which has about 1,000 inhabitants within the radius of the postoffice delivery.

NORTH HOOSICK.

North Hoosick is on the Troy and Bennington railroad, in the northern part of the town. The Walloomsac creek flows through it. It is a short distance east of the site of the old settlement of Saneok. In 1836 North Hoosick is spoken of as having a large flannel factory, scythe factory, a store, a tavern and some 20 dwellings. At present there are about 75 build-

ings in the place. Stevens & Thompson's wall paper manufactory is the chief industry of the place. The Methodists have a flourishing church in the village.

EAGLE BRIDGE.

Eagle Bridge is at the junction of the Troy and Boston railroad with the Rutland and Washington branch of the Delaware and Hudson canal company's road. It is also a station of the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railway. There are here 2 hotels, 4 stores, 1 commission house, 2 wagon maker shops, 2 blacksmith shops, 1 rope mill, 1 cord and thread mill, 2 grist mills and 1 saw mill; also a Methodist church. The buildings number 67, and the population is 315.

WALLOOMSAC.

This hamlet is on the Walloomsac creek, and is east of North Hoosick, on the Troy and Bennington branch railroad. It contains about 17 buildings. Here are also the Walloomsac paper company's mills, owned by Stevens & Thompson.

BUSKIRK'S BRIDGE.

The hamlet of Buskirk's Bridge is in the northwestern part of the town on the Troy and Boston and the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railways. There are three churches here, a Reformed Dutch church, a Methodist and a Roman Catholic church. About 40 buildings comprise the place.

WEST HOOSICK.

This place is near the western boundary line of the town. It is in what is known as the Nepimore valley, and has a school-house, a grist mill, a store, a blacksmith shop and about 15 buildings.

PETERSBURGH JUNCTION.

This place is at the junction of the Troy and Boston and the Harlem Extension railroads. It is also a station on the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railway. It is near the southern boundary of the town. In the vicinity are several flax and grist mills. On the Bratt farm are several excellent mineral springs.

POTTER HILL.

Potter Hill, which has a postoffice, is in the southwestern part of the town.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF HOOSICK.

1790	3,095	1845	3,574
1800	3,141	1850	3,724
1810	3,117	1855	4,120
1815	2,907	1860	4,104
1820	3,373	1865	4,783
1825	3,481	1870	5,728
1830	3,584	1875	6,525
1835	3,625	1880	7,860
1840	3,539		

CHAPTER XI.

THE TOWN OF PITTSTOWN.

THE LETTERS PATENT OF GEORGE III.—THE TOWNSHIP NAMED IN HONOR OF WILLIAM PITT, EARL OF CHATHAM—GRANT OF TWO THOUSAND ACRES ALONG THE TOMLENACK—PROVISION MADE FOR MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL—SINGULAR DISPENSATIONS OF JUSTICE—THE GREAT NORTHERN TURNPIKE—A SCORE OF CHURCHES—JAMES A. GARFIELD PREACHES AT PITTSTOWN—THE VILLAGES OF THE TOWN—TABLE OF POPULATION.

The first settlers of the territory lying north of Albany, on the east side of the Hudson, it would seem, were generally a very religious class of people. Whenever their number became sufficiently large to form a respectable sized congregation, steps were at once taken to secure a minister who should stately preach in one of the school-houses erected here and there along the roads through the newly occupied country. It sometimes occurred that in the petitions for land patents the parties desiring to obtain such proprietary rights would set forth such an intention specifically as regarded the provisions necessary to be made for religious teachers and schoolmasters. A purpose of this kind is made a special feature of what is known as the Pittstown patent, whereby an association of 62 persons obtained from the English crown about 60,000 acres of land, a part of which included the greater portion of the territory now embraced within the boundary lines of Pittstown.

THE PITTSTOWN PATENT.

Following the customary preamble of the sovereignty of his majesty, the king of Great Britain, etc., the instrument recites that "our loving subjects Isaac Sawyer, John R. Bleecker, Abraham Jacob Lansing" and their named associates had presented a petition on the 10th of June, 1761, in which they declared that they had purchased of the Indian proprietor four tracts of land, on the west side of Hudson's river, containing in the whole about 60,000 acres exclusive of the allow-

ance for highways, and humbly prayed his majesty that the same might be confirmed to their use by letters patent. In this petition the petitioners proposed making an immediate settlement on part of the two largest tracts, and to settle to the number of 62 families on the whole of the land purchased within the term of three years, the time to be computed from the termination of the existing war with France, and to seat and establish a township on each of the said two large tracts, "reserving and setting apart for the support of a minister of the gospel and the maintenance of a schoolmaster in each township forever the quantity of five hundred acres of each of the said two large tracts." In answer to this petition, his majesty, George III., granted respectively to each of the petitioners 1,000 acres of the land described in the royal patent.

THE SECOND TRACT OF 3,700 ACRES.

The first tract mentioned lay near the Hudson river. The second began "in the north bounds of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, six chains west from a brook or creek called Tomlenack." This point was "the beginning of a certain tract of 2,000 acres of land granted to John Schuyler and Neiltje Bradt." The line of the second tract ran along the bounds of the last mentioned tract to a tract of 600 acres of land formerly granted to John De Peyster, and then along this tract to the land granted to David Abrahamson Schuyler and others, and along it, and thence back to the place of beginning. This tract contained "3,700 acres of land and the usual

allowance for highways." It chiefly lies in the southwestern part of the town of Pittstown.

THE THIRD TRACT OF 24,650 ACRES.

The third tract began "in the north bounds of the manor of Rensselaerwyck at the southeast corner of the aforesaid tract of 2,000 acres of land granted to John Schuyler and Neiltje Bradt," which southeast corner is 170 chains east from the point, "six chains west from the aforesaid brook called Tomlenack." It ran thence along the bounds of the land conveyed to John Schuyler and Neiltje Bradt to the aforesaid tract of land granted John De Peyster, then along it to another tract granted to David Abrahamson Schuyler, Frederick Morris, Charles Williams, Thomas Clarke, Edward Collins and Sarah Williams, then along it and crossing one other tract granted to the latter persons and then by several courses to the north bounds of the manor of Rensselaerwyck and along this line to the place of beginning, "surrounding the greatest part of the last mentioned tract of land granted to the said David Abrahamson Schuyler and others." The third tract contained 24,650 acres of land and the usual allowance for highways. This tract is the southeastern part of the town of Pittstown.

KING GEORGE III. CALLS THE THIRD TRACT PITTSOWN.

The name of Pittstown, given, it would seem, by George III. to the third tract, was in honor of William Pitt, earl of Chatham, who was at this time the leading statesman of England. The king says:

We do by our own special grace, certain knowledge and meer motion create, erect and constitute the tract or parcel of land herein granted and distinguished as aforesaid by the name and distinction of the third tract and every part and parcel thereof a township forever hereafter to be, continue and remain: and by the name of Pittstown, forever hereafter to be called and known. * * * And we also ordain and establish that there shall be forever hereafter in each of the said townships [the fourth tract being called Cambridge] respectively, one supervisor, one treasurer, two overseers of the highways, two overseers of the poor, one collector and four constables elected and chosen out of the inhabitants of the said townships respectively yearly and every year, on the first Tuesday in May, at the most public place in the said townships.

THE CONSIDERATION MONEY.

The patentees were to pay yearly and every year at the king's custom house in the city of New York unto his receiver general, on the feast of the annunciation of the blessed virgin Mary, commonly called Lady day, the yearly rent of

two shillings and six pence sterling for each and every hundred acres of these granted lands. The patent is dated July 23, 1761, the first year of the reign of George the third. Previous to this grant there was another recorded known as the Tomhannock patent.

THE TOMHANNOCK PATENT.

For the purpose of obtaining a royal patent to a certain tract of land north of Albany on the east side of the Hudson river, John Schuyler and Joakim Bradt petitioned John Montgomery, the governor of the province of New York, July 23, 1730, for a grant of over 2,000 acres. Joakim Bradt died a short time after making this request, and the patent was then granted to John Schuyler and Neiltje Bradt, being dated July 29, 1737. The line of survey began "at a certain white oak tree standing in the line of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, six chains west from the said brook called Tomlenack and running thence from the said white oak tree," by several courses to the "west corner of the land granted to Myndert Schuyler and company, thence east along the line of their lands," by several courses, "to the patroon's line of his land there, thence along the same line west 179 chains to the place from whence the said tract or parcel of land first began, containing near 2,000 acres of land besides the usual allowance for highways."

THE SCHUYLER PATENT.

In the tenth year of the reign of George II., May 19, 1737, a patent of 11,250 acres of land was granted David Abrahamson Schuyler, Frederick Morris, Charles Williams, Thomas Clarke, Edward Collins and Sarah Williams. The line of survey began at the northeast corner of a tract of land previously in possession of Johnnes Becker, and ran "to a certain brook called Tomhenack, then up the stream of the said brook to the said tract of land now in possession of the said Johnnes Becker," etc. This the third tract was designated as being on the east side of the Tomhenack.

THE DE PEYSTER PATENT.

Another tract of land lying within the county of Albany, on the west side of the Hudson river "nigh to Schachtekok," beginning at a certain marked tree standing near to the dwelling house of one Johannes Becker, and running from the said marked tree along the lines of the tract formerly granted to John De Peyster, was conveyed by patent, dated November 19, 1743, to John De Peyster, containing 1,275 acres.

THE HOOSICK PATENT.

The several patents previously referred to embraced the greater part of the present terri-

tory of the town of Pittstown. The northern portion of the town, along the Hoosick river, was part of the tract included in the Hoosick patent, dated June 2, 1688. Subsequently small tracts adjoining the former tracts were granted to a number of individuals.

THE FIRST SETTLERS.

Among the first settlers that are said to have made their homes within the territory of the different tracts were William Pendergrast, Stephen Hunt and Edmund Aiken in the vicinity of Johnsonville; Ludovicus Viele near Valley Falls, in 1772; Christian Fisher and Michael Vandercook in the Cooksborough neighborhood about the year 1772. A few years earlier William Shepard began farming on 500 acres of land lying in the township. In 1774 Moses Van Namee occupied a farm a short distance north of Pittstown Corners. Benjamin Aiken took a farm of 950 acres about 1779; Isaac Carpenter came to the town about 1784, Joseph Abbott about 1788, and Gilbert Eddy a year or two before the latter date.

ERECTION OF THE TOWN OF PITTSOWN.

By "an act for dividing the counties of this state into towns," passed by the legislature March 7, 1788, the town of Pittstown was erected. Its boundary lines were: "All that part of the said county of Albany bounded southerly by Rensselaerwyck and Stephentown, westerly by Schaetkoke, northerly by Schaetkoke and Cambridge, and easterly by a line beginning at the distance of ten miles east from Hudson's river, on the north line of Schaetkoke continued east and running from thence to a place in the north bounds of Stephentown, at the distance of 13 miles from Hudson's river, shall be and hereby is erected into a town by the name of Pittstown." These lines bounding it were altered February 14, 1793. The town lies along the northern boundary line of Rensselaer county, between the towns of Schaghticoke on the west and Hoosick on the east.

THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

The first town officers were elected at the town meeting held on the first Tuesday in April, 1789. They were: Supervisor, Israel Thompson; town clerk, Evans Humphrey; assessors, John Francisco, Harmon Vanvarter, Hazael Shepard, Benjamin Milks, John Rowan; collectors, Gilbert Eddy, Hazael Shepard; poor-masters, Simon Vandercook, George Gage, Stephen Hunt; constables, Gilbert Eddy, Hazael Shepard, Aaron Van Namee, John Rowan, jr., and Stephen Hunt.

A VARIETY OF VERDICTS.

It is said that at the July term of the supreme court, held in Albany in 1789, Elihu Smeeds of Pittstown, indicted for the murder of Ezekiel Mitchell, and convicted of manslaughter, was to receive 39 lashes at the public whipping-post and be imprisoned three calendar months. Six others, convicted of stealing, were condemned to receive 39 lashes each, while about the same time Francis Uss, convicted of breaking open and robbing a store in Poughkeepsie, was publicly hanged.

AN EARLY POST ROUTE.

In 1790, when the New York mail arrived at Albany twice a week, one of the routes taken by a post-rider distributing letters and newspapers through the country north of Albany, was the following: Leaving Albany on Monday evening for Vermont, he arrived at Pittstown on Tuesday, at Bennington on Wednesday, at Little White Creek and Cambridge on Thursday, at Tomhannock and Schaghticoke on Friday, and at Hoosick on Saturday.

THE NORTHERN TURNPIKE.

Previous to the building of the northern turnpike from Troy to Vermont the following notice was given to those interested in the construction of this important thoroughfare:

Notice is hereby given that the books of the first company of the Northern turnpike road are opened, agreeably to the direction of the statute incorporating said company, and are lodged with the commissioners, at the following places, viz.: At Lansingburgh, with John Lovett; at Pittstown, with John Carpenter; at Buskirk's Bridge, with Martin Van Buskirk; at Cambridge, with Edmund Wells, jr.; at Salem, with John Williams; at Hebron, with David Long; at Granville, with Timothy Leonard. All persons desiring to subscribe for shares in said company may apply to either of said commissioners, at either of the aforesaid places. June 11, 1799.

REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH AT PITTSOWN.

A document which preserves in part the history of this church is the certificate of incorporation dated November 25, 1800. At that time the officers named as "the elders and deacons of the Reformed Dutch church at Pittstown," were John Van Woert, Jonathan Yates, Simon Vandercook, Stephen Jackson, Israel Shepard and Enoch Haskins. On the organization of the Presbyterian society in the south part of Pittstown, it would seem, this congregation became connected with the latter body.

THE PRE-BYTERIAN SOCIETY IN THE SOUTH PART OF THE TOWN.

For some time previous to the year 1817 a congregation of Presbyterians had been holding

religious services in the south part of the town. On the 20th of December, 1817, a meeting was held "at the usual place of divine worship" and the following persons were elected trustees: Simon Vandercook, Enoch Haskins, jr., Joseph Brown, Reuben Halstead, Tisdale Eddy and James Stitt. The name adopted for this legally organized body was "the Presbyterian society in the south part of the town of Pittstown." This church after many years of embarrassment and unsuccessful growth, ceased to exist, and in 1868 the property passed to the Evangelical Lutheran church.

THE PITTS TOWN UNION SOCIETY.

The members of the Pittstown Union society on Monday, February 15, 1819, met at the school house near Naham Taft's house, where they had usually met for divine worship, to elect "trustees for the building a church for said congregation." The following persons were then chosen as trustees of the "Pittstown Union society": Abraham Van Woert, Royal Abbott, Reuben Williams, Otis Taft, Walter W. Groesbeck, Jeduthan Hall and Naham Taft.

This organization, it appears, changed its legal name in 1819. A meeting of the male members of the society was held at the house of Elbert I. Willett, on the 22d of March, that year, at which John Van Woert, Robert S. Bostwick, Jacob P. Yates, Thomas Henderson, Jonathan Rouse and Jesse Smith were elected trustees of "the Dutch and Presbyterian society in Pittstown."

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TOMHANNOCK.

This congregation being the after growth of the former society about the year 1825 held a joint session meeting with the Presbyterian society in the south part of the town. The two churches united in calling a pastor, the Rev. Solomon Lyman, who was installed January, 1826. He was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph P. Tyler in 1829. The Rev. Phineas Smith served the Tomhannock church from 1830 to 1833; The Rev. Oren Brown 1833-34; the Rev. J. J. Dana 1834-36; then successively the Rev. Mr. Hayden, the Revs. B. Brown, J. B. Hubbard, P. Barber, — Toombs, F. Harman, P. Gordon, — Viele, — Hall, A. Ostrom, J. H. Noble and the Rev. R. J. Jones, who served both the Tomhannock and Johnsonville congregations.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT JOHNSONVILLE.

The legal organization of this church is dated the 11th day of February, 1836, when there was a meeting held "at the place of worship in the village of Johnsonville," and the following

persons were elected trustees of "the Presbyterian congregation of Johnsonville": J. H. Akin, jr., C. Jenkins, G. MacRae, Alexander Ross, E. F. Hurd and J. Westinghouse. The society has a very neat and commodious church.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT RAYMERTOWN.

This religious society was organized the 29th of August, 1840, and held religious services in the Presbyterian church, known as being in "the south part of the town of Pittstown." In 1868 the Lutheran congregation became the owner of the old Presbyterian church. On the first day of January, 1870, the members of the "Frankean Lutheran church and society of Raymertown" assembled at their stated place of worship to further perfect an organization made by the said church in the year 1853 under the name of "the Evangelical Lutheran church and society of Raymertown in South Pittstown." The following persons as trustees appear in the certificate of incorporation: Conrad Clum, Charles U. Barry, John E. Twogood, Martin Sipperly, Jacob L. Snyder and William Stanton. A new church edifice was erected in 1871, at a cost of \$8,500. The membership now embraces about 135 persons. The Rev. N. Van Alstyne is the present pastor of the congregation.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

Some years before the opening of the present century a society of Friends was organized in the town of Pittstown. For the purpose of a site for a meeting house and for a burying ground, Claudius Lamb sold to the society two pieces of land belonging to his farm along "the middle road," between the two turnpikes, one of which ran to Buskirk's bridge and the other to Hoosick and Bennington. The meeting house place was on the north side of "the middle road," about two miles north of Pittstown Corners. The burying ground was on the south side of the road. About the year 1844 a new meeting house was erected, the old building being used afterward as a horse shed. Among the early Friends living in the neighborhood of the meeting house were David Norton, Micajah Hunt, Asa Hoag, John Osborne, Simon Brownell and Nathan Peckham. The present leader of the society is Caleb Norton. Meetings are still held in the forenoon of First day, in the meeting house, by the present small congregation of Friends.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF PITTS TOWN CORNERS.

The first Baptist church at Pittstown Corners was organized about the year 1784 under the name of the Pittstown Baptist church. In

1793 the Rev. Isaac Webb accepted the pastorate of this church. He was succeeded by the Rev. Lemuel Covell in 1799. The Revs. Charles Lahatt, Charles Somers, Stephen Olmstead, Richmond Taggart, Wilber Sherman, H. Slade, Solomon Gale, jr., and Harvey Slade, subsequently served as pastors of the church. The first meeting house was erected about the year 1789. About the year 1847 a new house of worship was erected. On the 13th of September, 1847, a meeting was held at the church for the purpose of electing trustees and to organize a Baptist church and society, the Rev. D. S. Dean being chosen moderator and Benjamin Bosworth and Norman Baker clerks. It was resolved that the new society should be known by the name of "the Baptist church and society of Pittstown." The following persons were elected trustees of the new organization: Henry Warren, Benjamin Bosworth, George Gibbs, Anthony Hydorn, Hugh Reid, Jonas Halstead, Timothy Allen, James L. Halstead and Joseph L. Patterson. The pastors of this church have been the Revs. D. S. Dean, Foster Hartwell, William Hart, William Lucas, O. C. Kirkham, William Bowen and L. Sellick. For a number of years no services of this denomination have been held in the church. It is now occupied by the Disciples.

THE DISCIPLES CHURCH OF PITTS TOWN CORNERS.

This society was legally organized on the 3d of September, 1847, when the following persons were elected trustees: Joseph Haskins, Samuel S. Hyde, Benjamin Chapman, Solomon W. Thompson. The name adopted by the society was "the Baptist Church in the town of Pittstown." The Rev. Porter Thomas was the first pastor to serve this congregation. His successors were the Rev. Warren L. Hayden, 1860-64; the Rev. A. B. Chamberlain, 1864-69; the Rev. George Lobingier, 1869-72; the Rev. W. H. Rogers, 1872-73; the Rev. J. G. Ensel, 1873-77; the Rev. Edgar Pardee, from October 28, 1877, to the present time. The names on the roll of membership number about 100. This society now occupies the old Baptist church, which in 1860 was enlarged and remodeled. It was in the church of this society that Gen. James A. Garfield, when a student at Williams college, preached.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT BOYNTONVILLE.

In 1838 a Christian church was organized in the southeastern part of the town now known as Boyntonville. In 1840 a house of worship was erected on Main street, which was dedicated in the month of February, 1841. In the certificate of incorporation, dated July 25, 1855, the congregation is denominated a religious so-

ciety, "called Christian and nothing but Christian to the exclusion of all the names of factions and party, or of any addition thereto, in Pittstown and Grafton in the county of Rensselaer." On the day mentioned, according to a notice given by Elder Aaron Eldred, the following persons were elected trustees: Aaron Eldred, Titus B. Todd, Erastus Geer, William Rowland, Whiting B. Slason and Richard Vandenberg. About five years ago the church was remodeled. The present membership of the church is 64. The following ministers have served the congregation: Elder Wilson Mosher, Elder S. F. Dexter, Elder Joel Gallup, Elder Aaron Eldred, Elder Ansel Bourne, Elder Thomas Taylor, Elder J. W. Stearns, Elder Stephen Mosher, Elder J. G. Ensel, Elder James Wright, Elder A. H. Hanscom, Elder J. W. Stearns and Elder Joel Gallup.

COOKSBOROUGH METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Some time previous to the year 1815 a Methodist society had been organized in the southwestern part of the town of Pittstown. For a meeting was held in the church of this congregation in Cooksborough, on Friday, the twentieth day of January, 1815, at which Cornelius Filkins, Andrew Follett, William Haner, John Friot, Anthony Lockrow and Joseph Friot were elected as the trustees of the society, which was to be known by the name of the "Cooksborough Methodist Episcopal church."

TOMHANNOCK METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The work of itinerant Methodist preachers in the vicinity of the present village of Tomhannock was successful in the early part of the century, in collecting, from time to time, congregations to hear the gospel preached in the school-house, near the house of Solomon Tinsler. For the purpose of better accommodating the number of people attending these services a subscription paper was circulated in 1811 to secure money sufficient to build a house of worship. In order to organize this congregation legally a meeting was held on Tuesday, March 9, 1811, at the school-house where the people had been assembling for divine worship. In accordance with the notice previously given an election was then held for trustees, resulting in the choice of Christopher Snyder, James Deyoe, Simon Newcomb, jr., Anthony Miller, Daniel Carpenter and Amariah Herriek. As a corporate body they were to be known as the trustees of the Tomhannock Methodist Episcopal church. At a cost of about \$1,000 a frame building for a house of worship was shortly afterwards erected, on the west side of the

northern turnpike. In 1845 a commodious brick building was erected on the site of the old church, at an expense of \$3,300, having a seating capacity for 650 persons. One hundred and twelve names are on the present roll of membership. The Rev. Edward N. Howe is the present pastor of this church.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE SOUTH PART OF PITTSBOWN.

A congregation of Methodists had for some time previous to the year 1835 been worshipping in the schoolhouse in the neighborhood of Raymertown, in the south part of the town of Pittstown. For the purpose of incorporating themselves legally as a religious organization, at a meeting held on the 11th of May, 1835, the following persons were elected trustees of this Methodist Episcopal society in the south part of the town of Pittstown: Gilbert Alexander, Devotion E. Williams, James Mosher, Samuel Davis and David Snyder.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT VALLEY FALLS.

This church grew from the small beginnings of missionary work of various itinerant preachers of the Methodist church. From private houses where little gatherings of people had assembled to hear the gospel preached by the zealous followers of Wesley to the large assemblages in school houses, in which revival meetings were held, was the first step of the advancement toward an organized body possessing church property. The building of a house of worship by the Methodists began in 1839, at which time a frame edifice was erected on State street, Valley Falls, at a cost of about \$1,300, having about 300 seats. In 1854 this church was enlarged and remodeled. In 1870 the congregation became a separate charge. The following pastors have served this church since its disassociation from the Pittstown circuit: The Rev. E. Goss, 1866; the Rev. R. Cook, 1867; the Rev. J. K. Cheeseman, 1867-68; the Rev. Wm. J. Heath, the Rev. Isaac McCann, 1869-70; the Rev. H. Blanchard, 1872; the Rev. Andrew McGilton, 1872-75; the Rev. H. Dunn, 1875-76; the Rev. B. M. Hall, 1875-76; the Rev. D. Brough, 1876; the Rev. G. C. Morehouse, 1877-80; the Rev. H. W. Slocum, 1880 to date. The number of persons connected at present with the church is 159.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF PITTSBOWN CORNERS.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Pittstown Corners was legally constituted September 5, 1843. At the meeting held on that day John M.

Abbott, Leonard Reed and James G. Jeffers were elected trustees. Shortly afterwards a small house of worship was erected, and a parsonage in 1878. This and the Methodist Episcopal churches at Boyntonville, and at Potter Hill, in the town of Hoosick, are served by the same pastor.

NORTH PITTSBOWN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The meeting house in which the Methodists of Millertown, now North Pittstown, were accustomed to hold divine services, was built about the year 1842. In this house of worship a meeting was held on Tuesday, April 8, 1850, for the purpose of legally incorporating the church, which was thereafter to be known by the name of the North Pittstown Methodist Episcopal church, previously called the Millertown Methodist Episcopal church. At this meeting Francis Ingraham, John Comstock, John G. Davenport, William I. Baucus and Simeon Lamb were elected trustees. There are about 160 names on the roll of membership of this church.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT BOYNTONVILLE.

The incorporation of the "Methodist Episcopal society at Boynton," which was included in the circuit with the Methodist church at Raymertown was effected on the 16th of November, 1859. The Rev. Reuber Washburn was then pastor of the two charges. The following persons were elected trustees of the society: Erastus Geer, William Boynton, Benjamin Broek, Wm. H. Rowland and Kingsley Slade.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT EAST PITTSBOWN.

This Methodist society was incorporated February 18, 1860. The congregation which had been sometime previously organized, assembled on that day in the Union church in which it had been worshipping, at East Pittstown and elected William P. Abbott, John Russell, Hiram Benson, Platt Sherman, Parker H. Bosworth, Benjamin Street and Fletcher Ward as trustees of the church. This society purchased the meeting house formerly belonging to the Pittstown Union society, built about the year 1820.

ST. PAUL'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT JOHNSONVILLE.

The Protestant Episcopal church at Johnsonville was erected about the year 1871. A meeting for the purpose of having the officers of the church a corporate body was held on November 4, 1872, in the chapel, over which the Rev. W. Bogert Walker, rector, presided. George

O. Catlin and Charles J. Joslin, church wardens, and William A. Osborn, Charles W. Arrand, John T. Peel, A. H. Johnson, C. A. Banker, Thomas Thomas and Orlando G. Johnson, vestrymen, were named together with the rector to be incorporated as "the rector, church wardens and vestrymen of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal church," at Johnsonville.

THE JOHNSONVILLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The zealous missionary work of a few Roman Catholic priests was successful about the year 1874, at Johnsonville, in gathering together a number of believers in the faith of the Roman Catholic church. After the disorganization of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal church this congregation purchased the Episcopal chapel and since then have held regular services in it.

There is a Roman Catholic church a short distance north of Pittstown Corners.

PITTSOWN CORNERS.

This village contains about 35 buildings, among which are the Disciples', the Baptist and the Methodist Episcopal churches. The school house of district No. 2 is in the place. The business of Pittstown Corners is represented by three stores, a saw-mill and a blacksmith shop. In 1836 it is described as being 13 miles from Troy, containing one Baptist church, two stores, one tavern and about 20 dwellings. A postoffice was established here at a very early date.

JOHNSONVILLE.

Johnsonville is situated on the south side of the Hoosick river, on the lines of the Troy and Boston and the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railroads, which here connect with the Johnsonville and Greenwich railroad. The place has about 600 inhabitants. In 1836 it is described as being 19 miles from Troy, a mile northwest from the northern turnpike, having one tavern, three stores, one grist mill, one saw mill, a woolen factory and about 20 dwellings. The number of buildings at present is about 100, of which three are churches, the Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal and the Roman Catholic. There are two hotels and six stores in the place. The manufacturing places and shops are the Johnsonville axe manufacturing company's works, owned by Lane & Gale of Troy, at which 75 men are employed; 2 grist mills; 1 flax mill, a cabinet maker's shop, a blacksmith shop, a tin shop and a harness shop. The post-office was established in 1850.

The place was early known as "the Lick." It is said to have derived its present name from William Johnson, who having built a grist mill

at "the Lick," one day surprised his neighbors by displaying the name "Johnsonville" in large letters on the front wall of his mill.

Isaac M. Singer, the famous sewing machine inventor, was born in the village of Johnsonville.

Lodge No. 411, Independent Order of Odd Fellows has a neatly fitted up hall in the place

VALLEY FALLS.

The village of Valley Falls is built on both sides of the Hoosick river, the northern part being in the town of Schaghticoke. It has about 800 inhabitants and about 100 dwellings. The one house of worship is the Methodist Episcopal church. There are three hotels and five stores in the place. Among its manufacturing is a mosquito-net factory, a paper mill, a mowing machine shop, a linen twine mill and a flour mill. There is also an iron furnace and three blacksmith shops. It is a station on the lines of the Troy and Boston and the Boston, Hoosac tunnel and Western railroads.

TOMHANNOCK.

The village of Tomhannock is built on Otter creek, a tributary of the Tomhannock. Early in the present century it was known as Reed's Hollow. When the postoffice was established the place took its present name. In 1836 it is spoken of as Tomhenick on the northern turnpike, 13 miles northeast of Troy, having a grist mill, a Presbyterian and a Methodist Episcopal church, two taverns, three stores and about 20 dwellings. At present there are about 50 buildings in it and two churches, the Methodist Episcopal and the Presbyterian. A school house of district No. 10 is in the village. One hotel, three stores, two grist mills, a machine shop, two blacksmith shops, a harness shop, a cooper shop and a wagonmaker's shop embrace the business interests of the village.

RAYMERTOWN.

The village of Raymertown is on the old turnpike road leading from Troy to Bennington and is about 10 miles from Troy. It contains about 50 dwellings, among which is the Evangelical Lutheran church, and a school house of district No. 3. There are in the village limits one hotel, two grist mills, two flax mills, a saw mill, three stores and three blacksmith shops.

BOYNTONVILLE.

The village of Boyntonville is in the southeastern part of the town, and has about 35 buildings in it, two of which are the Methodist Episcopal and Christian churches. A schoolhouse of district No. 1 is in the place. The business interests of the place embrace two hotels, three stores, a harness shop, a tin shop

and two blacksmith shops. The number of inhabitants is about 200. A postoffice was established here June 21, 1875.

NORTH PITTSTOWN.

This place was early known as Millertown. There are about 20 houses in the place, one of which is the Methodist church. All of these villages have postoffices.

EAST PITTSTOWN.

This name is given to the eastern part of the town, district No. 15, where is a Methodist Episcopal church.

COOKSBOROUGH.

This name applies to a neighborhood in the southwestern part of the town, where is a school house and a Methodist Episcopal church.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF PITTSTOWN.

1790.....	2,447	1845.....	3,623
1800.....	3,483	1850.....	3,732
1810.....	3,692	1855.....	3,692
1815.....	3,768	1860.....	3,826
1820.....	3,772	1865.....	3,841
1825.....	3,746	1870.....	4,063
1830.....	3,702	1875.....	3,954
1835.....	3,919	1880.....	4,139
1840.....	3,754		

CHAPTER XII.

THE TOWN OF PETERSBURGH.

INDIAN ATTACKS UPON THE SETTLERS—FARMERS KILLED AND CARRIED INTO CAPTIVITY—PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST TOWN MEETING—NOTES OF A TRAVELING MISSIONARY—ERECTION OF CHURCHES IN THE TOWN—THE VILLAGES DESCRIBED—POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

The early settlers who dared to enter the great forest-country north of Albany, in the middle of the eighteenth century, for the purpose of clearing the tree-covered land in order to cultivate it, were persons of no common courage and physical ability. When ploughing, sowing or reaping in the stumpy spaces of ground from which their axes had removed the closely growing trees, these intrepid pioneers, as a means of self-protection, always carried their guns afield to meet any sudden attack of Indians. Protected from observation as they were by the surrounding woods, hostile bands of savages often surprised and massacred these industrious farmers while at work tilling the virgin soil of the newly occupied territory.

BORDER WARFARE.

In the summer of 1754 the few settlers of the Hoosick valley were repeatedly the victims of many barbarous outrages, perpetrated by Indians from Canada. Among the bloody deeds committed by these ruthless savages was an attack by day made by a party of Indians upon John G. Brimmer and his three sons,—John, George and Godfrey,—while at work in a field of their farm along the Hoosick river, near the site of the village of North Petersburg. The first intimation they had of the close proximity of their unobserved foes was the discovery of a number of Indian blankets. The father at once hastened to his house to defend its inmates, having previously instructed his sons to unharness the horses and follow him. While carrying out their father's commands four Indians made their appearance on the borders of the field. The young men immediately grasped their guns and prepared to defend themselves. In the first exchange of shots, George was killed. Godfrey, seeing his brother

fall, ran and hid behind a brush fence. While thus concealed the Indians approached his hiding place. Just as he was about to fire at them he was discovered in the act, and one of the Indians exchanged shots with him. Both balls missed their marks. Godfrey, seeing another one of the Indians about to fire at him, dropped the butt of his gun upon the ground, placed one hand over the muzzle and extended the other towards the Indian in token of surrender. One of the Indians then seized him by the collar, passed one of his fingers three times around Godfrey's neck, after which he laid his hand upon his head signifying that Godfrey was his prisoner. John fled to an island in the river, but the Indians threw stones at him until he was compelled to surrender himself. John was 16 years old, being five years younger than his brother Godfrey.

The Indians at once started off with their captives toward Canada, going by the way of Lake Champlain, where they had left their boats. When they reached St. Johns they were met by about 300 other Indians, who formed a circle around the white men, and ordered them to sing. This, it is said, they refused to do, although ordered a second and a third time. This so angered the Indians that they were about to brain them with their war-clubs, but at this juncture Godfrey discovered in the crowd of Indians one who had once partaken of the hospitalities of his father's house. He immediately spoke to the Indian, who, recognizing him, interfered and saved the prisoners from the dreadful tortures which the Indians would have inflicted upon them. They remained at St. Johns for six weeks, and were then sold as slaves to the French. After a hard term of five years'

servitude, they obtained their freedom on the surrender of Quebec to the English in 1759. They immediately started for Albany, but before reaching the city they were detained as prisoners by the British at Lake George. However, in a short time they were released, and joined the other members of the family at Rhinebeck, who had not heard anything concerning them since the day of their capture.

It is further related that a body of soldiers that had been sent from Albany up into the Hoosick valley, 10 days after this attack upon the settlers found the dead body of George Brimmer, which they buried by the side of a rock.

After the treaty between France and England, John G. Brimmer, with his family, re-occupied his deserted farm, which is still in the possession of his descendants.

THE FIRST SETTLERS OF THE TOWN.

On the map of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, made by Jno. R. Bleecker in 1767, the following names of the settlers of that part of the county of Rensselaer now known by the name of the town of Petersburg, appear:

West of the little Hoosick river were the houses of Peter Bachus, Johs Ruyter and Henry Litcher. On the east side that of Hans Bachus.

Along the west side of the Hoosick river, near the north manor line, were the farms of Barent Hogg and Jacob Best; and near the eastern boundary, the house of Schoonmaster Watson.

On the east side of the Hoosick river lived the following persons, taking them in their order, beginning near the north line of the manor and going southwardly: Hans Lantman, — Brimmer, Jacob Best, Petrus Vosburgh, Bastian Deel, Frans Burn, Juria Kreiger, Henry Young, — Devoet and heretofore Long Andries.

Other settlers followed the above and took tracts of land for cultivation. William M. Reynolds in 1780, came from Rhode Island; Ichabod ———, from Vermont; in 1784, Asa and T. ——— Maxon from Rhode Island; Sterry Hewitt ———, Connecticut, Stanton Bailey from the same state, Joseph Allen from Rhode Island, about 1790; William Hiscok, from Rhode Island, several years earlier; James Weaver and Thomas Phillips from the same state, Joshua, Thomas and Benjamin Randall, Abraham Lewis, Augustus Lewis, Oliver Spencer, Stephen Card and Sylvanus Stephens settled at an early date at Lewis's Hollow. John and Nathaniel Church came into the valley in 1780. Simon Odell occupied a farm at East Hollow shortly after the close of the revolutionary war. John Green, Hezekiah Coon, Aaron Cole, John

Nichols, Abel Russell, George Gardner, Jehabo-Irish, William Clark, Laban Jones, David Hestis, John G. Croy, Stephen Potter and Lyman Maine were also early settlers.

This part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the county of Albany, was made a part of the district of Stephentown by the general assembly March 29, 1784.

THE TOWN OF PETERSBURGH ERECTED.

On the 18th of March, 1791, the state legislature passed "an act for dividing the towns therein mentioned." Among its provisions is the paragraph respecting the boundary lines of the town of Petersburg, erected by the act. It reads:

That from and after the first Monday in April next, all that part of the town of Stephentown, in the county of Rensselaer, which lies north of a line to be drawn east and west from the south bounds of Peter Seaman's farm, until it intersects the east and west bounds of the said town of Stephentown, shall be and is hereby erected into a distinct and separate town by the name of Petersburg, and that the first town meeting of the inhabitants of Petersburg shall be held at the house of Hezekiah Coon, in the said town.

The town boundary line was changed on January 4, 1793; parts of the towns of Berlin and Lansingburgh were subtracted March 21, 1806; and parts of Grafton and Nassau, March 20, 1807.

THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

The proceedings of the first town meeting, held according to the act of the state legislature, are thus recorded in the town book:

At a town meeting holding at the dwelling house of Hezekiah Coon, in Petersburg, April 5, 1791, this day voted Hezekiah Coon, moderator; Jonas Odell, supervisor; John Greene, town clerk; Benjamin Hanks, Randall Spencer, John Nichols, assessors; Abel Russell, Luke Greene, Matthew Randall, commissioners; David Randall, Hezekiah Coon, poormasters.

Voted, That the constables and collector shall procure sufficient bail.

Voted, That there shall be but two constables for the town of Petersburg in the year 1791.

Stephen Maxon, Phineas Lewis, constables and collectors; Charles Greene, Abel Russell, Hezekiah Coon, fence viewers.

Voted, That sheep from the 15th of September until the 15th of November be kept in; if the rams is ketched out the ram shall be forfeited to the poor of said town.

Voted, Benjamin Hanks and Hezekiah Coon, poundmasters.

Voted, That wolves catched and killed in Petersburg shall receive a bounty of ten pounds, to be paid in produce.

Voted, That the next annual town meeting be at Hezekiah Coon's. JOHN GREENE, T. Clerk.

CHURCHES.

This town has only a small number of churches. It is said that the first church erected in this part of the county was by a number of Lutherans about the year 1798, at North Petersburg. There are no records of this religious society preserved.

PETERSBURGH BAPTIST CHURCH.

Some years before 1822 there was a small society of Baptists existing in South Petersburg. For the purpose of complying with the statute in regard to the incorporation of religious societies, the male members of this congregation assembled "at the Baptist meeting-house, near Aaron Worthington's," on Monday, July 8, 1822, and elected Aaron Worthington, James Allen, Asa Stillman, Asa Maxon, jr., Gardner Hiscox, Walter P. Burlingame, Zebulon Scriven, Sanford Hewitt and Ebenezer Robinson trustees of the Petersburg Baptist church.

In 1828 the congregation built a house of worship, which has since been remodeled. The names of most of the pastors that have served this congregation are the following: The Rev. Nathan Lewis and the Rev. J. D. Rogers, 1832; the Rev. Asa H. Palmer, 1833; the Rev. Gardner C. Tripp, 1836-37; the Rev. Nathan Lewis, 1838; the Rev. Edwin Wescott, 1841-42; the Rev. E. B. Crandall, 1843-51; the Rev. A. Waterbury, 1850; the Rev. D. Eldridge, 1852; the Rev. A. Waterbury, 1856-70; the Rev. J. G. Phillips, 1871-72; the Rev. N. B. H. Gardner, 1873; the Rev. G. H. Day, 1873; the Rev. N. C. Hill, 1875-76; the Rev. J. G. Phillips, 1877; the Rev. L. Benedict, 1878, and the Rev. G. W. Adams to the present time.

PETERSBURGH FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The success of the itinerancy of Lorenzo Dow among the people settled along the eastern limits of Rensselaer county was marked by the organization of a number of Methodist Episcopal congregations. This remarkable evangelist was induced in 1798 to visit North Petersburg by the invitation of Daniel Moon, who had heard Lorenzo Dow preach at Williamstown, Mass. The request made by Daniel Moon was complied with, and Lorenzo Dow, in company with James Millard of Stratford, Vt., preached to a goodly number of persons assembled at Moon's house.

By Dow's appointment the Rev. Joseph Sawyer, then on the Pittsfield circuit, preached at Petersburg. On one of his visits to this place he discoursed on the barren fig tree, which was the means of the conversion of Ebenezer Washburn. The latter was then appointed the

leader of a class of which his wife, John Prosser and wife and John G. Croy and wife were members. From this time for a number of years divine services were held at John G. Croy's house.

In 1799 Daniel Brumley of the Pittsfield circuit had this society under his charge. In 1821 the name of Petersburg was given to the circuit.

This society of Methodists had so greatly increased the number of its members that, in 1831, it built a commodious house of worship at North Petersburg at a cost of \$1,000. The Rev. C. B. Lewis is the present pastor of this church and of the one in Petersburg.

THE SOUTH PETERSBURGH METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The work of organizing a Methodist society in the south part of the town of Petersburg was begun by the Rev. Joseph Mitchell in 1800. He formed a class of the small number of new converts to Methodism and preached to them at the house of George Springer. This congregation grew rapidly and in 1820 was able to build a house of worship at South Petersburg, which is still used by the society.

For the purpose of making it an incorporated body, on Monday, March 4, 1822, a meeting of the male members of the church was held at the meeting house and the following persons were elected "trustees of the Petersburg first Methodist church": Joshua Randall, Joshua Lamb and Job W. Matteson.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF PETERSBURGH.

The certificate of the incorporation of this society recites that the members of it assembled at the place wherein they had stately met upon Sundays for divine worship, on the 10th of September, 1855, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon and had there elected, according to the notice previously given, the following trustees of "a religious society denominationally called Christians and nothing but Christians to the exclusion of all names of faction and party or of any addition thereto in Petersburg and Grafton": Elijah Reynolds, Ebenezer Stephens, Aaron Worthington, Martin T. Brown, Orlando D. Thurber and Elijah S. Randall. In 1843 the erection of a house of worship was begun, but the building was not finished until 1856. The pastors of the church have successively been the following: The Revs. Samuel F. Draper, R. D. Hawes, Thomas Taylor, H. B. Haight, James Summerville, James Hayes, John M. Woodward and Joseph W. Stearns.

The names on the roll of the membership of this society number 105.

THE TOWN IN 1802.

When in 1799 the building of the public road from the village of Bath-on-the-Hudson to Williamstown was in contemplation, the commissioners, David Fonda, James Maine, John E. Van Alen and David Gray, gave notice that a book for recording subscriptions to the capital stock of the Eastern turnpike company was opened at the house of James Maine, in Petersburg.

The Rev. John Taylor, a traveling missionary, thus wrote in his diary of his observations in the town of Petersburg in 1802:

July 22. Left Williamstown about 8 o'clock, took the road to Albany across the mountains, on the ground of the proposed turnpike. After passing a high mountain, came into a valley and into the town of Petersburg, in the state of New York. This town contains about 2,900 inhabitants. There are two churches of pedit-Baptists and one of Saturday Baptists. After passing in this valley about 3 miles, I rose another mountain and for 10 miles found a most intolerable road.

NORTH PETERSBURGH.

This village was the earliest settlement in this part of the county of Rensselaer. In 1836 it was known by the name of Petersburg Corners, at the junction of the Little Hoosick creek with the Hoosick river. It then contained a tavern, two stores, one Methodist church and 16 dwellings. It is 33 miles northeast of Albany and 27 miles from Troy. The village at present has about 300 inhabitants. About 25 buildings make up the place. There is one church, two hotels, one store, a blacksmith shop and a wagonmaker's shop in the village. It is a station on the Harlem Extension railroad. A postoffice was established at this point about 50 years ago.

SOUTH PETERSBURGH.

This place was early known as Rensselaer's mills. It is situated on the Little Hoosick river on the Harlem extension railroad. In 1836 it is referred to as being 20 miles east from Troy, having "a grist, saw, oil, carding and cloth dressing mills, three stores, one tavern, one Methodist and one Baptist church, and 20 dwellings." As a post village it bears the same name as the town in which it is situated. There are at present 80 dwellings in South Petersburg, which has a population of about 300 persons. There are three churches, four hotels and six stores in the place. Its manufacturing interests embrace three shirt manufactories, a shoe factory, a machine shop, three blacksmith shops, a wagon maker's shop and a cabinet making shop. About the year 1825 a postoffice was established at this point. Star lodge No. 670, F. and A. M., was established about 1861. The lodge has a neatly fitted-up hall in the village and numbers over 50 members.

STILLMAN VILLAGE.

This name is applied to a neighborhood some distance west of South Petersburg. The milling interests at this point are of some importance.

Several other neighborhoods in the town are distinguished by the names of "East Hollow," "Hell Hollow" and "The Kitchen."

POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

1810.....	2,039	1850.....	1,908
1815.....	1,761	1855.....	1,631
1820.....	2,248	1860.....	1,608
1825.....	2,088	1865.....	1,670
1830.....	2,011	1870.....	1,732
1835.....	1,850	1875.....	1,713
1840.....	1,901	1880.....	1,781
1845.....	1,879		

CHAPTER XIII.

THE TOWN OF BRUNSWICK.

THE FIRST FARMS ALONG THE POESTEN AND QUACKEN KILLS—BEAVER DAMS BUILT IN THESE STREAMS—MANUFACTURE OF BLACK SALTS—THE OUTRAGES OF THE ROYALISTS—THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS—AN OLD KERKENORDING—THE ERECTION OF CHURCHES—THE VILLAGES OF THE TOWN—POPULATION.

That portion of the manor of Rensselaerwyck lying immediately east of the territory now the site of the city of Troy was occupied by a number of settlers as early as the year 1720. The farm of Derick Van der Heyden at that time extended from the Hudson river eastwardly to the west side of the land of Albert Bratt. The latter's property embraced the extensive plateau of ground on the eastern range of high lands, beginning at the old mill on the Poesten kill southwest of Ida falls and continuing to the woods east of Meadow creek, a stream which emptied into the Hudson a little north of the old Hoosick road. The farm house of Albert Bratt was on the north side of the road running eastwardly over the hill from Van der Heyden's ferry, afterwards the home of Barent Bratt.

THE NAMES OF OTHER EARLY SETTLERS.

The names given on the map of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, made by Jon R. Bleeker in 1767, designate other early settlers who had secured land from the patroon by lease. On the south side of the road leading to Van der Heyden's ferry, not far south of the farm of Barent Bratt, lived Wilhelmus Smith, and southward of his farm, on the south side of the Poestenkill, Peter Fonda. Very near the site of Winne's hotel, on Oakwood avenue, was the homestead of Lavinus Winne. A short distance to the northeast of the latter was the dwelling of Henry Van Arnem. Northward were the farms of Peter Hoewey and Robert Wendell. Adam Beem and Frans Hogg had farms northwest of the beaver dam. David Benn and Melgert Fret northeast of it, along the west side of the ferry road. West of the drowned land, *Verdrongen land*, were the farms

of Hans Muller and Jacob Quackenboss. North of the drowned land lived Hans Heyner.

THE HOME OF THE BEAVER.

Among the places frequented by the beaver when the Dutch first established a trading post at Fort Orange were the Poesten kill and its tributary streams. A number of well-preserved dams thrown up by these furred animals were still visible in the town of Brunswick at the beginning of the present century. It was along these water courses that the Mohegan Indians had trapped the beavers, the skins of which they exchanged for small trinkets with Henry Hudson, when in 1609, this famous English navigator explored the river which now bears his name, as far as its confluence with the Mohawk.

BLACK SALTS, POT AND PEARL ASH.

Besides the products of their farms the early settlers of the upper Hudson sold to manufacturers of pot and pearl ash in Troy and Albany the ashes of the green wood, especially that of oak, which they obtained by burning the non-resinous trees of the great forests which surrounded their cultivated land. The farmers of the town of Brunswick were first induced to bring their ashes to Vander Heyden's ferry in 1787, when Benjamin Thurber built his potashery near the forks of the Hoosick and River roads, and advertised that he "continues to receive ashes, as usual, to supply his new erected pot and pearl ash factory, and will pearl black salts in the best manner on equitable terms; and will give the highest price for black salts."

When Duke de la Rochefoucauld-Liancourt visited Troy, in 1795, and mentioned in his de-

scription of the, new settlement its potash works, then belonging to Ten Eyck and Pawling, he further wrote:

I shall here insert such information as I have collected on the manner of preparing this salt which is generally observed in the United States. This alkaline salt is extracted from common ashes after they have been, previously purified from all heterogenous matter. It is obtained by solution and evaporation. Large tubs with double bottoms are filled with ashes: the uppermost bottom, which contains several holes, is covered with ashes, about 10 or 11 inches deep, while the under part of the tub is filled with straw or hay. Water being poured over the ashes extracts the particles of salt and discharges all the heterogenous matter, which it may yet contain on the layer of hay or straw. The lye is drawn off by means of a cock, and if it should not yet have attained a sufficient degree of strength it is poured again over the ashes. The lye is deemed sufficiently strong when an egg swims on it. This lye is afterwards boiled in large cauldrons, which are constantly filled out of other cauldrons in which lye is likewise boiling. Then the lye begins to thicken in the cauldron until all the aqueous particles are separated and the whole is completely inspissated and endured. This salt is of a black color and called black potash. * * * The process of preparing the potash requires more or less time, according to the quality of the ashes and the lye, and to the degree of strength of the latter; the medium time is 24 hours. * * * By a general estimate, from 500 to 600 bushels of ashes yield a ton of potash. * * * Pearl ash is potash purified by calcination. To this end the potash is put into a kiln constructed in an oval form of plaster of Paris; the inside of which being made otherwise perfectly close, is horizontally intersected by an iron grate, on which the potash is placed. Under this grate a fire is made, and the heat reverberated by the arched upper part of the kiln completes the calcination, and converts the potash into pearlash. * * * The process of calcination lasts about an hour. * * * Although pearlash is less liable to deliquesce by the air than potash, yet the barrels in which it is packed are of the same sort and structure as those in which the latter salt is barreled. They contain from 200 to 300 lbs. Both are sold by tons. They must be duly inspected by the public searchers.

TORYISM RAMPANT.

Peculiar to this portion of the manor of Rensselaerwyck a great number of the earlier settlers were Germans. When Burgoyne invaded the province of New York, in the summer of 1777, many of them, on account of their national relationship to the Hessians, hired by British money to take an armed and offensive part against the Americans, manifested extreme partiality toward the royal cause, which soon stirred up among the patriotic supporters

of the continental rebellion considerable ill-will. On the closer approach of the English forces many of the loyal farmers fled to Albany, and the royalists, believing that the English crown was about to conquer the rebellious Americans, committed many transgressions, both in the way of personal insults, appropriation and despoilation of property. It is related that Abner Roberts, who belonged to the army of the North, was waylaid, murdered and scalped on the old Hoosick road, a short distance from Troy, by the Tories as they were called. When, however, Burgoyne was forced to surrender to Gates at old Saratoga, (Schuylerville), these royalists were forced to flee to Canada, from which they never dared to return to enter again into the possession of their deserted farms.

TOWN OF BRUNSWICK ERECTED.

By "an act to divide the towns of Troy and Petersburg, in the county of Rensselaer," passed by the state legislature March 20, 1807, the town of Brunswick was erected. The boundary lines of the town are thus given:

All that part of the present town of Troy, bounded on the west by the towns of Lansingburgh and Troy aforesaid, and on the east by a line to commence on the north line of said [town of] Troy, seven miles and one-third of a mile east of the southeast corner of the town of Lansingburgh; thence southerly in a straight direction to intersect the north line of the town of Greenbush, seven miles and one-third of a mile east of the southeast corner of the town of Troy, shall be a separate town by the name of Brunswick; and the first town meeting shall be held at the dwelling house of Nathan Betts.

A portion of the town was added to the town of Troy April 15, 1814.

THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

In accordance with the act of the legislature the first town meeting was held on the first Tuesday in April, 1807, at the house of Nathan Betts, inn holder, Robert McChesney, Daniel Wagar and John McManus, presiding justices. The following persons were elected town officers:

Supervisor, Flores Bancker; town clerk, Daniel Wagar; assessors, south-east district, Daniel Simmons, north-east district, Gilbert Alexander, western district, Levinus Leverset; collector, Barnard J. Wagar; overseers of the poor, Daniel Simmons, Augustus Burdick; commissioners of highways, Augustus Burdick, John Filkins, Isaac Bucklin; constables, Thomas Betts, G. Y. Goewey, John Filkins, John Wilson, Andrew Myers, Daniel Kiser, Barnard J. Wagar, Abner Roberts; fence viewers, John Wheeler, Frederick Myers, John Wagar, John P. Goewey, John H.

shaver; pound masters, Gilbert J. Travers, Hiram Clowes; commissioners of schools, Robert McChesney, Flores Bancker, Lemuel Hawley; overseers of highways, Abraham Roberts, Nathan Betts, George Brust, Isaac Filkins, George Cipperly, Daniel Van Pelt, Benjamin Brewster, John Dick, Jacob J. Wazar, William Smith, Walter McChesney, Michael Phillips, Philip H. Coonradt, Henry Coonradt, Cornelius Dubois, Lemuel Hawley and Moses Dusenbury.

GILEAD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT CENTER BRUNSWICK.

The first religious society organized in this part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck was one known as the congregation of the Gilead Lutheran church. In the "kerkenording" or constitution of this congregation, 1777, it is stated that a log church had been built about the year 1757, where now is the village of Haynerville. The erection of a second church was begun in 1777, because the members were fearful that the old edifice "might fall down and kill" them. It is said that the first pastor of the church on account of his changed views of church polity joined the church of England. The Rev. Samuel Schwerdfeger, in 1768, was called from Frederick, Md., to the pastorate of the Gilead Lutheran church, in which office he remained for 24 years. While he served this congregation the members were divided into two parties, one favoring the revolutionary acts of the people of America and the other espousing the royal cause. No little anarchy existed at this time in this society, and the denomination suffered very much from local disturbances. The frame church building, the erection of which began in 1777, was not finished until 1788. This second house of worship was built between the old log church and the burial ground. Samuel Collamer is said to have done some of the carpenter work of the new church. John Barnett, Jacob Wager, jr., Casper Frats and Sebastian Lohnis were then the church council. The parson, it is said, presented to the congregation as a free gift 114 acres of land, a part of which was occupied by the two church sites and the burial ground. The first church and parsonage grounds are now the property of Charles Mickel. The present church is situated about a mile west of Cropseyville and east of Brunswick Centre.

The certificate of incorporation, filed in the Rensselaer county clerk's office, states that at a meeting of the members of the congregation, held on the 15th of June, 1790, at their meeting house called Gilead in Rensselaerwyck, Bastian Lohnis, John Hanor and John Godfrey Knauff were elected trustees of the church. To this

document Nicholas Bonesteel and Albertus Seymour, as elders and church wardens, set their hands and seals on the 21st of July, 1790. Among the early members of the church were: John Barnett, Johannes Bergman, Christopher Beckman, Albert Bratt, Jacob Bratt, James, John and Thomas Burnside, Jacob Cipperly, Heinrich Conrad, Henry and Johannes Dader, Philip and Andori Derk, John Ferguson, John Gerhard, Heinrich Gross, John Gunther, Conrad and Johannes Hainer, Abraham Kuntz, George Kloekner, Petrus Loose, John McChesney, Duncan McMullen, Adam Ostrander, Bernhard Polak, Abner and Abraham Roberts, Laurentius Schneider, Jacob Schmidt, Johannes Straub, Wilhelm Van Alstyne, Hermannus Van Buehren, Jacob Waeger, Petrus and Laurentius Weiderwaks.

In 1817 a third church edifice was erected, and on its site a new church was built at a cost of \$13,000 in 1865.

The pastors who have successively served this congregation are the following: The Rev. Samuel Schwerdfeger, 1768-92; the Rev. Frederick Meier, 1791-94; the Rev. George Seigmund Liebich, 1794-95; the Rev. George Joseph Wichterman, 1795-1801; the Rev. Anthon Theodore Braun, 1802-12; the Rev. John Baelman, D. D., LL.D., 1814-15; the Rev. John Molther, 1815-16; the Rev. William McCarthy, 1816-21; the Rev. John R. Goodman, 1821-28; the Rev. Jacob L. Senderling, D. D., 1828-53; the Rev. David Kline, 1853-64; the Rev. Philip A. Stroebel, 1864-68; the Rev. P. M. Rightmyer, 1868-71; the Rev. Alonzo P. Ludden, 1871-75; the Rev. J. Nelson Barnett, 1875-80.

The present roll of the membership of this flourishing church contains about 300 names.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BRUNSWICK.

Through the zealous interest of the Rev. Jonas Coe of the First Presbyterian church of Troy the first Presbyterian society of Brunswick was organized. At a meeting held on the 11th of June, 1809, over which he presided, the following resolutions were passed:

First, That all proper measures be adopted as speedily as possible to obtain the preaching of the gospel in this town in the English language, in a regular and stated manner, as we have already lived too long without it.

Second—Resolved, That Francis Collison, Benben Merriman, Hiram Clowes, William Bidwell, Samuel De La Mater and John Filkins be appointed a committee for raising funds and procuring a preacher as soon as convenient, and they are authorized to treat with the Rev. John Keys of Sand Lake and with the trustees of that congregation for one-fourth of his time to be appropriated here should he be settled there.

A subscription paper was then circulated which read as follows:

We, the subscribers in the town of Brunswick, in the county of Rensselaer, being desirous of having the Gospel of Christ preached among us, do hereby promise to pay to Francis Collison, Reuben Merriman, Hiram Clowes, William Bidwell, Samuel De La Mater and John Filkins the several sums annexed to our respective names yearly, for the term of five years, in quarterly payments for the Rev. John Keys, to preach one-fourth part of the time for the said term of five years in the town of Brunswick, at such place or places as a majority of the subscribers shall deem proper in said town, or on the borders of adjoining towns.

This paper, it is said, bears the signatures of 63 persons, the total amount subscribed being \$115.37, the largest subscription written was \$5 and the smallest 37 cents, made "by the widow."

At a meeting held September 25, 1809, it was determined that meetings should be held on Sundays, in the school house near the residence of Matthias Abbott. It was in this building that the Rev. John Keys began his ministry, in this pastorate in the fall of 1809.

In the following year on the 23d of July, 1810, a meeting was held "at the usual place of public worship in the vicinity of Matthias Abbott's" house, for the purpose of electing trustees for incorporating the congregation, which was to be distinguished by the name of the "First Presbyterian society of Brunswick." The trustees elected were William Bidwell, Matthias Abbott, Walter McChesney, James Cox, jr., and Francis Collison.

About the beginning of the year 1812 the erection of a frame house of worship was begun upon ground offered to the congregation by Matthias Abbott, at the meeting held in July, 1810. William Bidwell having taken the contract of building the church, so far completed it that on Sunday, June 21, 1812, the Rev. John Keys preached for the first time in the pulpitless building to a large congregation. The edifice was finished early in the year 1813, at a cost of about \$1,500. Shortly after the Rev. John Keys ended his connection with the society, May 1, 1813, the church became disorganized. A reorganization, however, was effected on Thursday, July 11, 1816, when 17 persons having certificates of dismissal from the First Presbyterian church of Troy, elected John Hutton, J. B. Goodrich and John Abbott, ruling elders. The Rev. John Younglove, who had for several months previously been filling the vacant pulpit of the church, was called to the pastorate. In this office he continued until De-

cember 29, 1827, when he died suddenly of heart disease.

The second certificate of incorporation of this church is dated April 9, 1825, at which time the following persons were elected trustees of "the First Presbyterian congregation of the town of Brunswick:" Philip M. Coons, Philip P. Dater, George Derrick, Valentine Cropsey, John H. Lansing and Walter McChesney.

This congregation, through the generosity of the patroon, Stephen Van Rensselaer, came into possession of 25 acres of land, together with a suitable building for a parsonage, June 23, 1833, the date of the deed.

In 1861 the work of remodeling the old house of worship was begun. When it was completed in 1863, the expense incurred was reported to be \$2,583.88. The church is about one mile south of Cropseyville. The pastors who served the congregation after the death of the Rev. John Younglove were the Rev. John Clayton, 1829-1830; the Rev. Leonard Johnson, 1830-32; the Rev. Gardner Hayden, 1834-49; the Rev. Joseph E. Lamb, 1852-53; the Rev. Samuel M. Wood, 1860-76; the Rev. J. V. Griswold, 1876 to date.

The present membership of this church embraces about 110 persons.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL SOCIETY OF CENTER BRUNSWICK.

The first Methodist society organized in the town of Brunswick was formed about the year 1834. This body for the purpose of incorporation, held a meeting on February 2, 1835, at the dwelling house of David Files, where they had been in the habit of assembling for divine worship, and elected David Files, Martin M. Hayner, Joseph Cleaveland, Jacob E. Adams and Hiram Van Pelt trustees of "the Methodist Episcopal society in the town of Brunswick." The first house of worship was erected during the summer of 1835, on the Stone road, four and one-half miles from Troy. This frame building was dedicated in December 1835, the Rev. Buel Goodsell, presiding elder of the Troy district, preaching the first sermon and the Rev. Noah Levings the second on that day. The building was erected at an expense of \$1,898.50. In 1896 it was remodeled.

The following ministers have been pastors of this church: The Rev. Charles Pomeroy, 1836-37; the Rev. P. M. Hitchcock, 1838; the Rev. D. Starks, 1839-40; the Rev. D. Stevens, 1841; the Rev. Asa C. Hand, 1842; the Rev. J. F. Craig, 1843-44; the Rev. Wm. M. Frazer, 1845-46; the Rev. John Graves, 1847-48; the Rev. Charles Devol, 1849; the Rev. M. Withersill, 1850; the Rev. S. Tubbs, 1851-52; the Rev.

John Chase, 1853-54; the Rev. Wm. Smith, 1855-56; the Rev. Joseph Eames, 1857-58; the Rev. H. Chase, 1859-60; the Rev. David Osgood, 1861-62; the Rev. C. Meeker, 1863-65; the Rev. Louis N. Beaudry, 1866-68; the Rev. H. W. Slocum, 1869-72; the Rev. D. T. Elliott, 1872-74; the Rev. Wm. Clark, 1874-76; the Rev. E. A. Bramar, 1877-79; the Rev. W. L. Smith, 1880 to date.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT MILLVILLE.

The second society of Methodists in the town of Brunswick was organized in 1849. The members of the congregation on the 2d of April of that year held a meeting to incorporate themselves as the society of the Methodist Episcopal church at Millville, now known as Eagle mills, by electing the following persons trustees: Adam Courad, Lodowick Myers, Ambrose Eddy, Joseph McChesney and Edward L. Roberts.

The congregation that year began the erection of a frame house of worship at Millville, at a cost of \$1,275, which was dedicated January 17, 1850. There are about 60 names on the roll of membership of this church. From the year 1849 until the spring of 1880 the same pastors officiated in this church as are mentioned as filling the pulpit of the Brunswick Methodist Episcopal church, beginning with the Rev. John Graves. Since its disconnection from the Brunswick church it has been connected with the Pawling avenue Methodist Episcopal church of Troy. The present pastor of the church is the Rev. W. H. Groat.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF EAST BRUNSWICK.

This society was organized in that part of the town known as Rock Hollow, in 1874. The certificate of incorporation is dated March 23, 1874, at which time a meeting was held in the school house of district No. 14, it being the place where the members of the society had steadily attended divine worship. At this meeting the following persons were elected trustees of the East Brunswick Methodist Episcopal church: Levi Hayner, Jacob Housinger, Willard D. Green, Orrin McChesney and William Wager.

During the summer of 1874 a frame church building was erected which was dedicated on the 1st of November of that year, the Rev. J. E. Bowen, presiding elder of the district, the Rev. — Whitson and the Rev. D. T. Elliott officiating. The pastors of the church have been the Rev. D. T. Elliott, one year; the Rev. W. Clark, two years; the Rev. A. E. Braman, three years, and the Rev. W. L. Smith, the present pastor.

CHURCH OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

This religious society was formed December 14, 1853. For the purpose of incorporating it, a meeting was held in Millville on the 12th day of March, 1853, at which J. H. Allen presided. The trustees elected were William Kinlock, John Welch and Henry Myers. The name adopted by the body was "the Church of the Disciples of Christ at the village of Millville." A frame church building was erected during the summer of 1853, at a cost of about \$1,200. At its dedication on the 5th of February of the following year Elder Silas E. Shepherd of New York city preached the dedicatory sermon. The pastorate of this church has been filled by the following elders since the organization of the society: Elder H. C. Parsons, Elder Bartlett, Z. P. Birdsall, Dexter Moody, Edwin Wakefield, James A. Garfield, J. H. Gardner, J. C. Stark, J. O. Cutts and J. G. Ensel.

EAGLE MILLS.

The village of Eagle Mills was first known as Milltown, and subsequently as Millville. It is situated on the Poesten kill, and is about four miles distant eastwardly from Troy. In 1826 it was spoken of as having a grist mill, a saw mill, a tavern, a store and 10 or 12 dwellings. Eagle Mills now embraces about 60 buildings, two of which are churches, the Methodist Episcopal and the Disciples' church, and one district school house. The valuable water power of the Poesten kill at this point makes the place important as a manufacturing centre. In 1851 Joseph H. Allen purchased the old flour mill of Sheldon, DeFreest and Van Alstyne, built in 1831, and converted the building into a bit and auger factory. In 1854 the Millville manufacturing company was organized, which erected new buildings near the factory of J. H. Allen, for the purpose of making cable chains. Subsequently this property came into the possession of J. H. Allen, who began the manufacture of farming hoes in these buildings. The Planters' hoe company, represented by J. H. Allen and George T. Lane, after the close of the late civil war, was formed, which entered very largely into the manufacture of hoes in the buildings previously mentioned. Besides this manufacturing interest there are a foundry, a saw mill, three blacksmith shops and a wagonmaker's shop in the village. There are also two stores and a hotel in Eagle Mills. The population is about 500. A postoffice was established here a number of years ago.

CROPSEYVILLE.

This village, which is near the eastern bounds of the town, contains about 25 buildings and

has a population of 115 persons. In the summer of 1854 a postoffice was established at this point. The business interests of the place comprise a store, a grist mill (built by Henry Clum in the latter part of the last century), a saw mill, a harness shop and two shoemaker shops. About one mile south of Cropseyville is the First Presbyterian church of Brunswick, and also the parsonage.

BRUNSWICK CENTRE.

This hamlet is situated about the centre of the town of Brunswick, on the old Stone road. Sweet Milk creek runs through the place. Brunswick Center comprises a schoolhouse, a store and a small number of dwellings. The Gilead Evangelical Lutheran church is a short distance east of the place. A postoffice was established here a number of years ago.

HAYNERVILLE.

Haynerville is in the northern part of the town. It has a postoffice. The school-house of district No. 8 is in Haynerville. A store and a wagon maker's shop comprise the business interests of the place.

CLUM'S CORNERS.

Clum's Corners are about half of a mile west of Cropseyville. The number of people living in the immediate vicinity is about 40. At the corners are 10 dwellings, a hotel, a blacksmith shop and two wagon maker shops.

PLATESTOWN.

This hamlet is about one and a half miles northeast of Clum's Corners. District school No. 12 is situated at this point. The place is also known by the name of Tamarac.

ROCK HOLLOW.

This place is about a mile northeast of Cropseyville, and on the Quaken kill. The hamlet embraces about 25 buildings, a Methodist Episcopal church, a school house, a hotel, a brush block factory, a paper mill and a blacksmith shop.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF BRUNSWICK.

1810.....	2,302	1850.....	3,146
1815.....	2,383	1855.....	3,161
1820.....	2,318	1860.....	3,110
1825.....	2,478	1865.....	3,175
1830.....	2,575	1870.....	3,178
1835.....	2,679	1875.....	3,226
1840.....	3,051	1880.....	3,404
1845.....	2,895		

CHAPTER XIV.

THE TOWN OF POESTENKILL.

DOMESTIC FEATURES OF SLAVERY—REMARKABLE FIDELITY OF FAMILY SERVANTS—THE EMANCIPATION ACTS—FIRST SETTLERS OF THE TOWN—THE ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS—THE ORGANIZATION OF RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—POPULATION STATISTICS.

The elements of a quiet, unpretentious existence are peculiarly associated with country life. The isolation which the occupancy of a broad acreage of land establishes naturally affects the disposition and character of those who live surrounded by the continuous quietude of the fields in which they plough, sow and reap. The rural tranquility of their homes is seldom disturbed by the excitements of sudden and novel occurrences which so frequently quicken the pulse of the inhabitants of cities. The self-same, commonplace round of daily toil, changing only its phases with the recurring seasons, engages the thought of him who drives his team afield at the first rosy blush of the eastern sky and weary returns to the sheltering roof of his home when night begins to robe the earth with its dusky garments. The incidents of country life glow with no great effulgence upon the page of history. It is only now and then that the beauty and simplicity of humble farm-life attract us when they are charmingly portrayed in the gentle songs of Burns, in the melancholy meditations of Gray, or in the tender thoughts of Wordsworth.

The ownership of slaves by the early settlers of the manor of Rensselaerwyck was in its domestic relationship, about the close of the last century, a peculiar feature of the households of many farmers living along the Poestenkill at that time.

SLAVERY IN THE MANOR OF RENSSELAERWYCK.

The emancipation of negro and mulatto slaves, in the state of New York, was due to the enactment of a law passed by the legislature March 17, 1817, by which every negro, mulatto or mustee within the state, born before the 4th of July, 1790, should be free from and after the 4th of July, 1827. By a former law it was

provided that all persons born of slave parents after July 4, 1790, were born free, the males being required to do service until they were 27 years of age, and the females until they were 25 years of age.

In the entertaining book entitled the "Memoirs of an American Lady," by Mrs. Grant, an allusion is made to the possession of slaves in the manor of Rensselaerwyck, and the care and affection that were bestowed upon those who by dutiful service had endeared themselves to the members of the family in which they had been reared. The writer remarks:

When a negro woman's child attained the age of three years it was solemnly presented the first New Year's day following to a son or daughter, or other young relative of the family who was of the same sex with the child so presented. The child to whom the young negro was given immediately presented it with some piece of money and a pair of shoes; and from that day the strongest attachment grew between the domestic and the destined owner.

THE FIDELITY OF SLAVES.

I have nowhere met with instances of friendship more tender and generous than that which here subsisted between the slaves and their masters and mistresses. Extraordinary proofs of them have been when a young man and his slave have gone to the trackless woods together, in the case of fits of ague, loss of a canoe, and other casualties happening near hostile Indians. The slave has been known, at the imminent risk of his life, to carry his disabled master through unfrequented wilds, with labor and fidelity scarce credible; and the master has been equally tender on similar occasions of the humble friend who stuck closer than a brother: who was baptised at the same baptism, nurtured under the same roof, and often rocked in the same cradle with himself.

These gifts of domestics to the younger members of the family were not irrevocable; yet they

were very rarely withdrawn. If the kitchen family did not increase in proportion to that of the master, young children were purchased from some family where they abounded to furnish those attached to the rising progeny. They were never sold without consulting their mother, who, if expert and sagacious, had a great deal to say in the family, and would not allow her children to go into any family with whose domestics she was not acquainted. These negro women piqued themselves on teaching their children to be excellent servants, well knowing servitude to be their lot for life, and that it could only be sweetened by making themselves particularly useful and excelling in their department. If they did their work well it is astonishing, when I recollect it, what liberty of speech was allowed to those active and prudent mothers. They would chide, reprove and expostulate in a manner that we would not endure from our hired servants; and sometimes exert fully as much authority over the children of the family as the parents, conscious that they were entirely in their power. They did not crush freedom of speech and opinion in those by whom they knew they were beloved, and who watched with incessant care over their interest and comfort. Affectionate and faithful as these home-bred servants were in general, there were some instances (but very few) of those who, through levity of mind, or a love of liquor or finery, betrayed their trust or habitually neglected their duty. In these cases, after every means had been used to reform them, no severe punishments were inflicted at home. But the terrible sentence, which they dreaded worse than death, was passed—they were sold to Jamaica. The necessity of selling them was bewailed by the whole family as a most dreadful calamity, and the culprits were carefully watched on their way to New York lest they should evade the sentence by self-destruction.

EARLY SETTLERS OF POESTENKILL.

Some time previous to the revolutionary war a number of farms of the territory, now belonging to the town of Poestenkill but then to the manor of Rensselaerwyck, was obtained by settlers by lease from the patroon of the manor. The names of these early farmers and of a few who followed them at later dates, before the close of the century, were: J. Berringer, T. Berringer, Johannes Burger, Peter Clapper, Craver Coons, J. Coons, C. Cooper, P. Cooper, W. Cooper, David J. De Freest, N. Fulman, P. Heyner, A. Homocker, B. Ives, Lazarus Ives, W. Kilmer, J. Leibbite, Archelus Lynd, P. Link, S. Muller, E. Nightart, Grant Peck, Wm. Peck, Barent Polock, W. Seamon, C. Shyster, H. Sponk and J. Sater, jr.

THE TOWN ERECTED.

act for the division of the town of , and to erect the town of Poesten- by the legislature March 2, 1848.

the town of Poestenkill was created. Its bounds were:

Beginning at the northeast corner of the town of Greenbush, running thence east along the south line of the towns of Brunswick and Grafton, to the northwest corner of the town of Berlin; thence southerly along the west line of the town of Berlin, four miles to the south line of the eighth range of lots in the Middletown survey, in the line of lots known as numbers 133 and 134; thence west along the line of said range of lots to the north side of the dwelling house of John Peck; thence west to the intersection of the roads, about four rods easterly from the Troy and Sand Lake turnpike toll gate; thence westerly to the north side of the dwelling house of Conrad Reichard and Andrew Link and to the Greenbush line; thence northerly along the east line of the town of Greenbush, to the place of beginning, shall be and is hereby erected into a separate town by the name of Poestenkill, and the first town meeting shall be held on the first Tuesday in April next, at the inn of Jeremiah Becker, in the said town of Poestenkill.

FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

At the first town meeting, held at the house of J. L. Becker, on the 4th of April, 1848, the following persons were elected the first town officers:

Supervisor, James Henderson, jr.; town clerk, David Luce; superintendent of common schools, Eleazer Flint; assessors, John I. Vosburgh, Benjamin B. Randall, Harmon Vanderzee; commissioners of highways, Barney Wetherwax, Stephen Austin; justices of the peace, George Cottrell, George Barker, Benjamin Wilkerson; overseers of the poor, Christian C. Cooper, Samuel Comick; constables, John Barker, Alonzo Whyland, William Cooper, John F. Whyland; collector, John Barker; scaler of weights and measures, James D. Simmons.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

The first society of Baptists in the town was organized in 1814. The meetings of the society were first held in a building formerly a wagon-maker's shop, standing on the highway about a mile west of East Poestenkill. The present house of worship was erected about the year 1860, in East Poestenkill. Among the names of the pastors who have ministered to this society are those of Elders Alderman Baker, Joseph Rogers, Peter Ambler and Edwin Westcott. The present pastor is the Rev. Charles S. Catlin.

The First Baptist church has about 75 members.

THE FRANKEAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

The congregation which assumed the name of the Frankean Evangelical Lutheran church

of Poestenkill dates its organization from the 11th day of August, 1833. The formation of this religious society was due to the active ministrations of the Rev. J. D. Lawyer. At the time of its organization the society had 73 members. Three stations—Poestenkill, West Sand Lake and Raymertown, formed one charge. The first church, erected south of the village of Poestenkill, on the road leading thence to West Sand Lake, in 1832, was dedicated on the 13th of November of that year, the Rev. George Lintner, D. D., and the Rev. J. D. Lawyer officiating.

The pastorate of this church has been successively filled by the following ministers: The Rev. J. D. Lawyer, August 11, 1833-38; the Rev. J. S. Robinson, April 1, 1838-39; the Rev. Isaac Kimball, July 1, 1839-40; the Rev. G. W. Porter, 1848-49; the Rev. R. Smith, jr., 1850-57; the Rev. J. A. Rosenberg, 1857-67; the Rev. John Kling, August 1, 1867-74; the Rev. H. A. Strait, 1874-77; the Rev. Silas W. Young, March 14, 1877, to date.

The present house of worship was erected in 1865, on the site of the first church, at a cost of \$8,000. It was dedicated December 24, 1865, the Revs. N. Van Alstyne, H. L. Dox, J. A. Rosenberg and M. W. Empie taking part in the service.

The present roll of membership of the church has the signatures of 120 persons. The Sunday school embraces five officers, seven teachers and 102 scholars.

THE FIRST FREE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The First Free Baptist society was organized about the year 1836, at which time its meetings were held at different places in the vicinity of Oak Hill. Shortly afterward the congregation erected a meeting house on Oak Hill. A second edifice was subsequently built a short distance from East Poestenkill.

Of the number of pastors of this church, the following ones may be mentioned: Elders Miller, I. B. Coleman, J. D. Howe, Isaac Hoag, Hyde, Ketcham, Van Erden and Smith, the present elder in charge. The present meeting house, erected about the year 1872, is situated a mile west of East Poestenkill.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

The religious society known as the Disciples of Christ was organized at the house of Miles Clark on April 2, 1850. Among the founders of the body were Elder Dexter Moody, Francis Parsons, Durfee Read, Matthew Moody, Marvin Moody, Miles Clark, Eliza Read, Sally A. Clark, Martha Read and Diana Wooster. In 1850 a frame house of worship was erected in the village of Poestenkill, which was dedicated

September 20, 1850. The building cost about \$800 and had a seating capacity for nearly 200 persons. The present frame building was erected in the village of Poestenkill, in 1864, at a cost of \$4,000. At its dedication August 18, 1864, Elders A. N. Gilbert, L. R. Gault, D. Moody and Chamberlain took part in the services. The present membership of the church is 100.

The following elders have served the congregation at different periods: Elders Dexter Moody, one year; M. J. Streator, two years; I. J. Lowell, two years; Elder Parsons, two years; Elder Wakefield, one year; J. C. Starks, one year; J. H. Gordiner, three years; L. R. Gault, one year; Elder Olin, three years; Elder Reynolds, one year; J. S. Bell, three years; J. Callylean, two years; Elder Ensel, two years; J. Benenstuki, one year, and Elder Theodore Crooks.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Through the missionary efforts of the Rev. George Hudson, a small congregation of Methodists was gathered near Dyking pond, on Berlin mountain, where he preached. Subsequently divine worship was held in Lewis Horton's hall, in Poestenkill. In 1872, the Rev. E. A. Blanchard was appointed to take charge of the Dyking pond congregation and the one at Poestenkill village. That year the present meeting-house at Poestenkill village was erected at a cost of \$6,500.

The following pastors have officiated in this church: The Rev. E. A. Blanchard, 1872-74; the Rev. Thomas Monroe, April 18, 1874-76; the Rev. John Sumner, 1876-78; the Rev. John W. Coons, April, 1878-80. The membership of the Poestenkill church embraces about 110 persons.

POESTENKILL.

The village of Poestenkill is on the Poestenkill, a stream from which it derived its name. It is somewhat west of the center of the town, and contains about 50 buildings, among which are two churches, three hotels, a grist and a saw mill and three stores. The village has about 350 inhabitants. At a quite early date in the present century the medical spring at a close remove from the village attracted the attention of invalids for its curative properties in cutaneous diseases. A number of bathing houses were erected to accommodate the people resorting to the spring. These buildings, together with a number of other structures, were subsequently swept away by a remarkable freshet in the Poestenkill, caused by a heavy fall of rain for two days. Dr. Luther H. Barber was made the first postmaster of the postoffice established at this point about the year 1856.

EAST POESTENKILL.

The hamlet of East Poestenkill is situated in the eastern part of the town. The place has about 100 inhabitants and contains two churches, two stores, a hotel and several shops. East Poestenkill was known at one time by the name of Columbia. Cyrus Amidon was the first postmaster of the postoffice established at this place.

BARBERVILLE.

Some distance east of the village of Poesten-

kill is Barberville, which contains about a half score of houses, a hotel, a store and one or two shops.

IVES'S CORNERS.

Ives's Corners is the name given to a small collection of houses near the centre of the town.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF POESTENKILL.

1850.....	2,092	1870.....	1,769
1855.....	1,873	1875.....	1,727
1860.....	1,833	1880.....	1,765
1865.....	1,952		

CHAPTER XV.

THE TOWN OF GRAFTON.

THE LATEST SETTLED TOWN IN THE COUNTY—EMIGRATION FROM NEW ENGLAND—THE ERECTION OF THE TOWN—THE BEGINNING OF THE ANTI-RENT WAR—LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY—TROY TROOPS SENT TO THE HELDERBERG REGION—A MURDEROUS AFFRAY IN THE TOWN OF GRAFTON—ANTI-RENTISM A POLITICAL QUESTION—THE ERECTION OF CHURCHES—POPULATION.

It seems that the territory embraced within the present bounds of the town of Grafton was not as early occupied by settlers as were the other contiguous portions of the manor of Rensselaerwyck. The rocky roughness and mountainous character of this part of the manor were no doubt not as inviting to emigrants as were the more arable tracts of the other sections of Rensselaerwyck, and on this account it was later settled.

EMIGRATION FROM NEW ENGLAND.

Immediately after the revolutionary struggle a tide of emigration set in toward the upper Hudson from the older New England settlements. The patroon, in order to place under cultivation the immense tracts of untilled land lying within the manor, made such liberal overtures at this time to emigrants that not a few vigorous and industrious New Englanders were found willing to accept his offers and to lease of him certain farm lands now forming part of the town of Grafton. Dr. Amos Hall, a resident of the town, speaking of the settlement of this part of the manor in an unpublished sketch of its history, says :

There were few (if any) inhabitants within the present limits of Grafton down to the time of the commencement of the revolutionary war in 1775. Soon after peace was restored, in 1783, many persons whose families had been reduced to poverty and to great extremities during the struggle for liberty, found it necessary to emigrate in order, if possible, to improve their circumstances, and to regain the lost means of supplying the increasing wants of their families.

In the midst of these circumstances, from 1785 to 1788, very many industrious, hardy yeo-

manly came with their families and settled here. It was a complete wilderness at the time, all the country being covered with heavy timber, and, as a matter of course, they suffered the usual wants and privations of the first settlers of most new countries.

Among the first families that settled here were the Owen, the Coon and the Demmons families. Abel Owen, a revolutionary soldier, soon after the close of the war emigrated from Connecticut or Rhode Island, and settled on the farm where Steward Allen now lives. Gen. Van Rensselaer, as an inducement to settle on the manor, gave him a deed-title to 200 acres of land. He lived in a log house on the old road, some 50 rods south of said Allen's house, and the well from which his family drew water is still in use. As early as 1787 he had many acres cleared, kept some stock, and raised his own grain and provisions. Being a somewhat prominent resident, the old road which runs through the town from Petersburg to Troy was called in all the old leases "Owen's road."

THE FARMS OF OTHER SETTLERS.

Francis West and family from Rhode Island took a farm in this part of the manor some time about the revolutionary period. John Babcock from the same state, and Elkanah Smith from New Jersey, also became farmers of land leased from the patroon at this early date. About the year 1779 William Scriven and wife, with two daughters and seven sons, from Rhode Island, made his home in this new section. Joshua Banker, John and Thomas Phillips, Ael Ford, Francis Brock, John and David Mills, John Monroe, Solomon Smith, Rutus Rix and Capt. Charles Ferry are also named as early settlers of the town of Grafton. John P. Hayner, Solomon Root,

Nathaniel Dumbleton, Daniel Littlefield, William Snyder, James Reid, Henry Conrad, Godfrey Howard, Andrus Miller, Lodowick Bonesteel, Marcus Simmons, John Hydorn, Henry Hydorn and B. Hayner are mentioned as being farmers in this part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck. The annual rent of the farms was based upon their fertility and acreage. From five to twenty-five bushels of wheat were paid for the use of land. In the town there are about 25 lakes or large ponds.

THE TOWN OF GRAFTON ERECTED.

By "an act to divide the towns of Troy and Petersburg, in the county of Rensselaer," passed March 20, 1807, the town of Grafton was erected. The boundaries of the new town were:

All the remaining part of the town of Troy, and so much of the west side of Petersburg, as shall make seven miles in width from the east line of the town of Brunswick, cut off by a line to commence on the north line of Petersburg, seven miles east of the northeast corner of Brunswick; thence southerly parallel to the east line of said Brunswick to the south line of Petersburg, shall be a separate town by the name of Grafton; and the first town meeting shall be held at the dwelling house of Nathan Hakes.

The name Grafton, it is supposed, was given to the town at the suggestion of Nathaniel Dumbleton, the first supervisor, who had removed to this part of Rensselaerwyck from Grafton, Vt.

THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

At the first town meeting held at the house of Nathaniel Hakes on the first Tuesday of April, 1807, the following persons were elected town officers:

Supervisor, Nathaniel Dumbleton; town clerk, David S. Crandall; assessors, Patrick Agan, Ziba Hewett and John Babcock; overseers of the poor, Joseph Burdick and Benjamin West; commissioners of highways, Samuel Pundall, James West, 2d, and Jedediah Wellman; collector, Joseph Burdick, jr.; constables, Ethan Maxon, Simeon Smith and Joseph Burdick, jr.; overseers of highways and fence viewers, Thomas West, Jonathan Brook, James West, 1st, John Worthington, Nathan West, Joseph Burdick, John Phillips, Marcus Simmons, William Snyder, Henry Conradt, John Reid, Sylvester Chase, Peter Wager, Stephen Chandler, Walter Durkee, William Scriven, Francis Brook, Zebulon Scriven, 2d, Jonathan M. Scriven, Michael Brenastuhl, Charles Hall and John Babcock; poundkeepers, Thomas Smith, Joseph Scriven and John Babcock.

THE ANTI-RENT TROUBLES.

Upon the death of Stephen Van Rensselaer, which occurred on the 26th of January, 1839, the manor property of Rensselaerwyck, or

rather the leased farms which were formerly within its boundaries, were by the will of the deceased patroon divided between his two sons, Stephen and William P., the former obtaining the ownership of the farms lying on the west side of the Hudson, and the latter those east of the river. When the will of the patroon was proved, notices were published requesting persons indebted to him to settle their accounts. A few of the tenants occupying the land of which he was the patroon paid their arrears, while the larger number delayed their payments.

On the 22d of May, 1839, a committee consisting of Egbert Schoonmaker, Hugh Scott, Lawrence Van Deusen, Joseph Conner and John F. Shaffer, representing tenants in the towns of Rensselaerville, Westerlo, Bern, Knox and New Scotland, visited Stephen Van Rensselaer at Albany, and left with him a communication in which they set forth their complaints regarding their grievances. The statements made in this paper were mainly the following: "The enormous price put upon wheat above what it formerly was when leases were originally given, it being then \$0.75 per bushel at the extreme, one day's services with carriage and team, at \$1 per day, and four fowls at 50 cents, making in all, for one year's rent, on a lot of 100 acres (at 22½ bushels per lot) at \$18.37 per lot, at which time wheat rating at from \$1.50 to \$2.25 per bushel—day's services at \$2 per day, and four fowls at \$0.75, making our rents rate at from \$35 to \$50 a year, making it now extremely difficult for many of the tenants to support their families and pay their rents, without involving themselves and posterity in extreme peril and hardship."

To remedy the evils complained of the following changes were suggested: "To have the old leases abolished and new leases given, in which rents to be stipulated shall be in money; the same number of bushels allowed as in the old leases, and retail in the following order, to wit: \$1 per bushel for the first quality of land, \$0.87½ per bushel for the second quality of land, \$0.62½ per bushel for the third quality of land: \$1 per day for the day's services, and \$0.50 for the four fowls, excluding the reservation of greater sales, water privilege, the soil under water, the privilege of buying the soil, to those who wish to purchase the same at any future time, for such sum as the interest thereof will amount to, the amount of rent on each lot now fixed."

In regard to the payment of arrearages they gave this opinion: "Those tenants whose property is incumbered to the amount of their personal effects, over and above their arrear-

ages of rents due said proprietor, should be remitted in whole, or at all events in equal proportion to the stipulations to be entered into for future rents."

THE PATROON'S REPLY.

In answer to this complaint Stephen Van Rensselaer, patroon of the western manor, wrote :

Your ancestors or yourselves who are tenants, accepted leases with a full knowledge of the kind and amount of rent to be paid, and of the reservations and conditions to which the land was subject ; and it was matter of agreement, the nature of which was fully understood at the time the same was made. Such as now hold as purchasers, knew full well the rents and covenants subject to which they purchased ; and I am at a loss to conceive how the conditions and covenants upon which the lands are held can now be deemed grievous unless something is now claimed by the landlord entirely new, and which operates oppressively upon the tenant ; and as nothing more is claimed than has been acquiesced in and acknowledged by your ancestors and yourselves, or those from whom you have purchased, for more than half a century, I can not admit that you have now any grievances to be redressed ; and especially so, as no rent was charged for the first seven years after the tenant went into possession. * * *

Your last suggestion in behalf of tenants as have been delinquent in the payment of their rents as that arrears now amount to almost the value of the lands, it seems to me is a matter with which you have nothing to do. * * *

You seem to be under a mistaken impression as to the price of wheat, which I will endeavor to correct. Wheat as you have been charged for the last 10 years has averaged \$1.33 per bushel ; for the last 20 years has averaged \$1.25 per bushel ; for the last 30 years has averaged \$1.45 per bushel ; for the last 40 years has averaged \$1.41 per bushel ; for the last 47 years has averaged \$1.40½ per bushel. * * *

I am, however, willing to charge the wheat to money rent, and to take the average price of wheat for the last 47 years as the price at which a bushel of wheat shall be estimated hereafter ; the day's service and team to be \$2 ; and the four fowls 75-100.

And I am also willing to sell and give a release of the rents and reservations in the leases, so that the land shall and may be held hereafter in fee for the said \$5 per acre of all lands in the four west towns, but not to include any of the towns below the hill.

This answer is dated May 29, 1830.

REBELLION INAUGURATED.

On the 4th of July, 1830, a meeting of the west manor tenants was held at Bern, who resolved not to conform to the requirements set forth in their leases nor to the demands of the patroon, saying :

We do sincerely and solemnly believe that the proposals of the standing committee to Stephen Van Rensselaer (in strict justice) is all that any man of honor or patriotism, having at heart the welfare and prosperity of his fellow creatures, could reasonably ask or expect to receive ; and that we consider the proposals of said Van Rensselaer to be an outrage on the laws of humanity, and therefore utterly reject and condemn the same. And the said committee in behalf of us, said tenants, are requested to inform said Van Rensselaer that we consider his proposals in the same light that Dr. Franklin considered the act in the British parliament imposing stamp duties on certain papers and documents used in the colonies. Franklin said, in addressing Charles Thompson relative to said act, that "the sun of liberty is set : you must light up the candles of industry and economy." And that we also reply in the language of the patriot Thompson, that we shall light up torches of quite another sort if we are thus driven to the alternative of choosing an unconditional submission to the will of one man, elevated by an aristocratic law, emanating from a foreign monarchy, or the resistance thereof. The latter is our choice ; we have counted the cost of such a contest, and find nothing so dreadful as voluntary slavery.

The committee was also "instructed to inform the pretended proprietor of our soil that if he will establish or present a good, sufficient and valid proper title to or for the soil of the land we occupy, and then give new leases, casting aside the day's services, fowls, quarter sales, all reservations and restrictions contained in the old leases, excepting the wheat, and change that from wheat to money rent, computing the same at \$1 per bushel for each and every bushel on each and any lot as reserved in the old leases, give the tenants or any of them the privilege at any future time hereafter of buying the soil for a sum of money that the interest thereof at seven per cent. will amount to a sum equal to the value of the wheat on each and every lot at said \$1 per bushel, and reduce all arrears of rent to said \$1 per bushel, relinquishing the day's services and fowls on each and any lot against which arrears are claimed."

The patroon made no reply to this defiant statement.

THE TENANTS IN ARMS.

The sheriff of Albany county, Michael Artcher, having been resisted in serving certain legal process on the defiant tenants of the patroon of the west manor, in the vicinity of the Helderberg mountains, on the 30th of November, 1830, called out a *posse comitatus* to assist him in the discharge of his duty. About 1,000 persons answered this call, who in a long procession of stages, barouches, wagons and

horses. on the 2d of December, proceeded toward Reedsville. About four miles beyond Clark's tavern they were met by several hundred armed men on horseback, who opposed their further progress and compelled them to return to Albany.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR.

For the purpose of sustaining the laws of the state, his excellency, William H. Seward, governor of the state, issued a proclamation on the 10th of December, 1839, warning all persons from hindering or obstructing the officers of justice in the execution of their duties. The governor tells the people that he has taken measures to call forth a sufficient military force to enable the sheriff of the county of Albany to execute effectually the legal process committed to him, and to maintain the supremacy of the laws.

THE TROY MILITARY CALLED OUT.

On Monday, December 9, 1839, an order was received from the adjutant general of the state calling out the three uniformed military companies of the city of Troy to proceed to Albany to aid the sheriff of Albany county in executing process upon the rebellious tenants of the west manor. On Tuesday morning, the Troy Citizens' corps, Capt. Pierce, the Troy City guard, Capt. Wickes, and the Troy independent artillery, Capt. Howe, proceeded to Albany in obedience to this order. These companies, in connection with the Albany Burgesses corps, Capt. Bayeux, the Albany Union guards, Capt. Brown, the Albany Republican artillery, Capt. Strain, the first company Van Rensselaer guards, Capt. Kearney, the second company Van Rensselaer guards, Capt. Berry, all being under the command of Major William Bloodgood, marched 12 miles to the scene of disturbance, where they remained until the following Tuesday, when they returned to Albany, over a very bad road, covered with snow to the depth of 15 inches. Speaking of the deportment of the citizen soldiers, an Albany paper remarked :

Everything we hear of their bearing and deportment excites admiration and gratitude. They submitted strictly and cheerfully to a discipline as rigid as that observed in any service. Their intercourse with the inhabitants of the resisting towns was in the highest degree conciliatory. Their forbearance amid the taunts and insults of an excited populace awaiting their first approach is worthy of all praise. They discharged their duty faithfully and fearlessly, but with a due and careful regard to the rights of others, the peace of society, and the honor of the service.

The formidable appearance of this large body of military in the midst of the disaffected peo-

ple had the desired effect, and the sheriff of Albany county served the processes without any opposition.

ELIJAH SMITH KILLED.

In the east manor, of which William P. Van Rensselaer was patroon, the troubles among the tenants of the leased farms were often very alarming in their character. In the excitement of a gathering of a party of disguised anti-renters, on the 19th of December, 1845, in the town of Grafton, near the house of Oliver West, a short distance west of Grafton Centre, Elijah Smith was killed. The latter, it seems, while defensively or aggressively, had an up-lifted axe in his hand, was shot. Several investigations were held to discover the person committing the murder, and although more than 200 persons were examined, the perpetrator of the deed was not identified.

A POLITICAL QUESTION.

Gov. Seward in several of his annual messages called the attention of the legislature to the matters complained of by the manor tenants. A commission was appointed but nothing of a definite or a pacific character resulted from its investigations. The anti-rent feeling affected not only the local but the state politics for a number of years, particularly from 1842 to 1847. In time the vexing questions connected with the collection of rents by the agents of the patroons ceased to trouble the public mind. In 1854 the patroons conveyed their interests in the rents due them to Walter S. Church of Albany, who for a time brought suits against the st non-paying tenants and made collections of rents.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF THE TOWN OF GRAFTON.

The first Baptist church and society of the town of Grafton, as named in the certificate of incorporation, in 1841, had its origin early in the century, when at several places in the town small congregations of Baptists were accustomed to assemble to hear certain elders of the church preach. What is known as the Cobb schoolhouse, in the northeastern part of the town, was one of the places where divine worship was held. A second place of assemblage was the schoolhouse, at East Grafton, formerly designated as the Scriven neighborhood. Often when the congregations were too large to be accommodated with seats in the schoolhouse, it is said, the people repaired to Col. Scriven's barn, where they held some very interesting meetings. Elder Hull at this time officiated, and once ministered when the elements of the Lord's supper were partaken of by the members of the congregation in the

barn. Elder Joseph Wilcox was early known as having charge of the congregation worshipping in the Cobb school house. During the summer of 1815 a meeting was held in the maple grove on the farm of the late Peter S. Hydorn. It was here that the Rev. Nathan Lewis, son of Elder John Lewis, was ordained. From these several organizations the Grafton Baptist church was formed in 1827. The first church edifice, erected by the liberality of Stephen Van Rensselaer, was built near the present residence of Dr. Amos Allen. Among the first members of the society were Benajah Allen, Daniel Brimmer, John Crandall, Roswell Crandall, Cyrus Davenport, Daniel P. M. Davison, Ezra Davison, John Eldred, George Hakes, Jabez Hakes, John Howard, Ira Lamphire, John L. Lamphire, Nathan Lewis, Oliver Main, Joseph D. Rogers, Ira Stone, David West and Elisha Wells. For a number of years the Rev. N. Lewis and the Rev. J. D. Rogers jointly had charge of the spiritual concerns of this congregation.

On the 14th of August, 1841, a meeting of the members of the society was held at the house of Benajah Allen for the purpose of complying with the statute respecting the incorporation of religious bodies. At this meeting Benajah Allen, Potter Maxon, Caleb W. Scriven, Joseph D. Wells, Zebulon P. Burdick and Rufus S. Waite were elected "trustees of the First Baptist church and society of the town of Grafton."

About the year 1851 the work of erecting a new church edifice was begun, the site selected being a short distance east of the old building at Grafton Centre. During the pastorate of the Rev. J. D. Rogers, about the year 1853, the new house of worship was finished and dedicated.

The following pastors have served this church since the year 1827: The Revs. Nathan Lewis, Joseph D. Rogers, H. J. S. Lewis, P. T. Shirley, — Timberman, E. D. Wilcox, Roswell Collins, — Catlin. The Rev. H. J. S. Lewis is the present pastor.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF GRAFTON

The earnest labors of Lorenzo Dow about the beginning of the present century were fruitful in the formation of a large number of Methodist congregations along the eastern border of the state. In 1823, on the seventh day of April, the members of the Methodist Episcopal society in the town of Grafton assembled at the usual place of worship and elected David Hayner, John P. I. Hayner and Timothy B. Wilds trustees, by which the body became incorporated. A church was erected on the road leading to Grafton Center, about a mile east of Quackenkill, which was known as the "Hemlocks

church." This old building was sold, and the money used in building a parsonage at Grafton Center in 1877. For a time the old church building at Grafton Center, erected by the patron, was used by the society for divine worship. In 1877 the new church building at Grafton Center was finished, having cost about \$3,500. The Rev. G. W. Douglass was pastor of the church at this time. The present roll of membership registers the names of about 60 persons.

THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH OF GRAFTON.

The organization of the Free Methodist church of Grafton was effected on the 5th day of January, 1863. The Rev. A. B. Burdick was the first pastor of the church. In 1873 the society erected a house of worship about a mile east of Quackenkill at a cost of about \$1,200. For the purpose of incorporation the following trustees were elected on the 18th day of June, 1872: Edward Birdsall, Jonas Snyder, George Craver and Aaron B. Burdick.

THE FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF GRAFTON.

This Baptist society was incorporated, according to the statute, May 23, 1873. The trustees then elected were the Rev. Choate Pratt, Ariel C. Durkee and Warren Stewart.

GRAFTON CENTER.

Grafton Center, which is situated about 12 miles east of the city of Troy, is in the center of the town. In 1836 the place was known as the Patroon's Mills, where at an early date the patroon of the manor of Rensselaerwyck had erected for the use of his tenants a grist mill, a saw mill, a church and a tavern. In 1836 there was a grist mill, a tavern, a store and about a half score of buildings here. In the village at present there are two churches, two hotels, three stores, two blacksmith shops, a wagon-maker's shop, a chair shop, and several shirt factories.

EAST GRAFTON.

East Grafton is a hamlet containing a small number of houses. The business interests of the place include a hotel, a store, a blacksmith shop and a wagon-maker's shop.

QUACKENKILL.

This place derives its name from the stream on which it is situated. The paint mill of E. H. G. Clark, where is manufactured "Grafton mineral paint," is the most important business interest in the hamlet. From 600 to 700 tons of paint are made annually. There are a hotel and a blacksmith shop in the place.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

1810.....	1,120	1820.....	2,014
1815.....	1,328	1825.....	1,888
1820.....	1,611	1830.....	1,827
1825.....	1,543	1835.....	1,671
1830.....	1,081	1840.....	1,099
1835.....	1,082	1845.....	1,074
1840.....	2,019	1850.....	1,676
1845.....	1,905		

CHAPTER XVI.

THE TOWN OF BERLIN.

THE COMMON HARDSHIPS OF THE SETTLERS—A SCARCITY OF FOOD—
THE CLOTHING OF THE PIONEERS—THE RECEPTION OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE—THE EPIDEMIC OF 1813—ERECTION OF THE TOWN—AN AWFUL CASE OF POISONING—CHURCHES OF THE TOWN—
—TABLE OF POPULATION.

The lives of the men and women who about the close of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth centuries were the first pioneers to enter and settle within the depths of the great northern wilderness lying on both sides of the upper Hudson were marked with many hardships and self-denials. The barest necessities of furniture were found inside their log-built, bark-covered cabins. Oiled linen or greased paper were the common substitutes for window glass, and dried stalks formed the covering of the unfloored building.

THE REMINISCENCES OF A SETTLER.

The description given of the common experiences of the early settlers show a variety of discomforts which people of more modern times seldom endure. Among the first to penetrate the great woodland in the vicinity of the Little Hoosick river, near its source, in the present town of Berlin, was Daniel Hull. In the summer of 1769 he, on foot, left Connecticut in search of a suitable spot where he might build himself a home, and by tillage obtain a living for his family. Having found such a locality in the southern part of Hoosick valley, he returned home. His two sons began in the winter of that year to clear away the trees, and shortly he with them erected a log house near the site of the present residence of Daniel J. Hull. It is said that in 1770 he brought his family and the few household goods which he possessed as far as the Douglas farm, where now is East Stephentown. He had with him a yoke of oxen, a farm cart and a horse. Beyond this stopping point there was no open road, and he was compelled to leave the cart and pursue the remainder of his journey along an old Indian trail. Nelson Hull, in his reminiscences,

thus speaks of the pioneer life of his grandfather's family in the great woods :

When they arrived at their new home their provisions were nearly consumed. Means must be taken to replenish their store. This howling wilderness was a poor market to look for stores for subsistence. Bears and deer and other game roamed in the forest. The brooks were alive with trout, but they had no time to take them. Every moment must be employed in clearing up the land to raise grain for bread and increase their store of the necessities of life. Corn they bought of the Dutch in the Brimmer neighborhood. To get it ground they were necessitated to carry it on horseback to a mill near the federal stores, now West Nassau. Nearly the whole of this way was a dense forest; the roads consisted of nothing but paths most of the way. The distance was full 20 miles, and it usually required about three days to make one of those mill journeys. In the course of three years a highway was opened to Williamstown, Mass., the distance was shortened, but it often took three days to get a grist-ground there and return home. There was no mill in the valley of the Hoosick till the year 1779 or 1780. This was erected by a Mr. Trial, and afterwards called the Bates mill.

A SCANTY SUPPLY OF FOOD.

They had no milk, butter or meat, except occasionally some wild game. They got buttermilk of the Dutch. On this and corn bread they mostly lived. The second year they had a small crop of wheat and purchased a cow. Fare was a little better. The cow had to be turned into the woods to get her living; if she roamed so far away that they could not find her, the family went to bed without their supper, or supped upon dry bread, which was often the case. . . . The second year they also raised some pork. The means for raising or fattening pork was almost wholly on wild nuts for several years.

The little store of pork laid in was generally consumed at an early day in the spring, if not long before. When spring opened they commenced making sugar from the maple. To make up for milk, which they seldom had at this season, they substituted sap-porridge. Several dishes were seasoned with this beverage [maple sugar]; it also took the place of butter. The facilities for making it were such they could obtain but little. The sugar seldom lasted longer than the spring months; for the remainder of the year milk and bread served them for food.

They suffered much from the cold; it was not uncommon to rise in the morning with their beds covered with snow to the depth of several inches. Their houses were open and their furniture consisted of a few articles of the simplest kind. Their outside clothing consisted of flannel or linsey-wool, in fashion not dissimilar from a hunting coat; a jacket of the same, if they could get one; short breeches almost invariably of leather, either buckskin or sheep, shoes and stockings.

THEIR OWN CLOTHES MAKERS.

There were no factories or mills to card wool or dress cloth. Fulling mills were in use, but none existed in these parts for some years. The first fulling mill in this place was on the Swamp creek, west of Cherry Plain hill, near the Bailey orchard, built by Mr. Ludington. The wool taken from the sheep was carded, spun and woven, also fullled; this was done by pounding in a trough or barrel, in the usual way of pounding clothes at the present day; lastly cut and made by their wives and daughters. * * *

Their market was Schodack landing or Castle-ton. In consequence of the poor roads the market could be reached only in winter, with a sleigh. The inhabitants, for several years, seldom made the journey, except when compelled to for want of salt, (this article was very dear) and a few other indispensables. The little trade carried on or currency in use among the inhabitants of the valley was in wheat. * * * There was no store in the country till 1778. This was opened by Joseph Westcoat, North Stephentown now, and where the house of Mrs. R. Dennison Jones afterwards stood. The next by James Jones, 1783, at Sweet's Corners, now South Berlin.

THE PATRIOTISM OF THE SETTLERS.

When the declaration of independence was received the inhabitants through the country assembled at the house of Daniel Hull to hear it read and counsel for future action. The military formed in line on the ground, now the door-yard in front of Benjamin L. Hull's house. Here Daniel Hull read the declaration for the first time publicly in the valley of the Hoosick. After the reading, he said: "I am one to sustain this declaration." Requesting the commanding officer (I think Capt. Samuel Shaw) to order his ranks to open to the right and left, which was accordingly done, he, (Daniel Hull), stepping forth between the two lines requested all that would sustain the declaration to follow him. Seeing an exciting stir and smile

from the soldiers, looking behind himself, he saw his wife, who had joined in the line of march, acknowledging her services should not be withheld in sustaining that declaration of independence. Every man joined in this line of march as volunteers in the cause of liberty and independence. It is said the reading of the declaration and the exercises were affecting, and a deep sense of the importance of the cause and the trust pervaded the heart of every individual present.

Much deprivation and suffering were in every part of the country. Every able-bodied man was serving his country, either at home or abroad. The lands were neglected, families left in want, but all was with a willing heart for independence. The women did not withhold; they applied their hands to the tilling of the lands, etc., to keep a starving family alive, and a famishing soldier.

THE NAMES OF THE FIRST SETTLERS.

Godfrey Brimmer is accorded the honor of being the first settler located on the territory now embraced within the boundaries of the town of Berlin. He is said to have made his home in the northern part of this portion of the manor of Rensselaerwyck as early as the year 1765. Reuben Bonesteel came shortly afterwards. In 1769 Peter Simmons, Jacob O. Cropsey and Joseph Green were numbered among the persons occupying farms in this part of the county. Col. Caleb Bentley took to farming in the northern and Thomas Sweet in the southern part about this time. Paul Braman, James and Daniel Dennison, Nathaniel Niles, Peleg Thomas and Joshua Whitford were also early settlers.

Nelson Hull in his reminiscences thus refers to the tide of emigration in this vicinity:

After the revolution new settlers began to come in and enlarge the boundaries of cultivation. Mechanical arts began to increase. A saw mill was built near the year 1780 by Amos Sweet, in the hollow east of the Christian chapel. A blacksmith shop was opened by Thomas Sweet, on the east side of the road, a short distance north of Sweet's Corners. This was much earlier than the above date.

The early inhabitants of the country were generally quite healthy and athletic, but a doctor saw fit to settle here, whether for weal or woe, near the year 1775—Dr. John Forbes—at Sweet's Corners.

The first frame house in the present limits of the town of Berlin was built by Daniel Hull, near the close of the revolution, on the same ground where now resides Daniel J. Hull.

In 1813 an epidemic made its appearance in the valley of the Hoosick and swept through the country like a tornado. * * * There was little or no exception as to age; the young and the athletic fell before the destroyer. Mourning was in almost every house; but few families escaped.

Few cases were cured. It made its appearance near midwinter, and continued till warm weather.

TOWN OF BERLIN ERECTED.

By "an act to divide the towns of Petersburg, Stephentown and Schodack, in the county of Rensselaer, into five towns," passed by the legislature March 21, 1806, the town of Berlin was erected. The boundary lines of the town were.

All that part of the town of Petersburg lying south of a line drawn from the south-east corner of the town of Troy, in a direct course with the south line of Troy, east to the line of the state of Massachusetts; and all that part of the town of Stephentown lying north of a line drawn from the north-east corner of the town of Schodack, running east to the aforesaid line of Massachusetts, shall be a separate town by the name of Berlin, and the first town meeting shall be held at the house of Charles Denison.

In 1812, June 19, a part of the territory of the town was taken to form the town of Sand-lake.

The town lies near the centre of the eastern boundary of the county. The Kinderhook creek flowing southwardly and the Little Hoosiek northwardly are the two principal streams watering the town. Several lakes beautify the western part of the town.

POISONED HIS WIFE.

In the year 1845 the people of the town of Berlin were horrified by the details of a crime which for its cold-blooded character is without a parallel. The facts connected with its perpetration, as related in the newspapers, were the following: It appears that Henry G. Green, a resident of the town, became enamored of a young woman named Mary Ann Wyatt of Lowell, Mass. Green made her acquaintance while she was a member of a theatrical troupe with which her brother was associated. After a short engagement they were married. Soon after their marriage they in company with a number of other friends made a visit to Hoosiek. In a merry way one of the ladies had told Green that she had once entertained hopes that she would have been his wife. By some strong fatality he at once began in a secret way to plan the death of his wife by the administration of poison. Opium was first used by him, but this only sickened his wife for a time. He then purchased a quantity of arsenic, which he put in the coffee and soup partaken of by his unsuspecting and loving wife. In his confession he admitted that his victim was all that he could have desired her to be, but that his mind was bent upon her removal so that he might marry the woman who had playfully told him that she had thought she

would have been his bride. He declared that he had no fears of detection, and that the first feeling of sympathy he had for his wife was when he witnessed her sufferings from the effect of the poison. It is said that he had evinced his affection for his wife after their marriage, on the 9th day of February, by presenting her with a cloak, a dress and other articles. His wife never became aware of any want of affection on his part until she became suspicious that he was the cause of her sickness. Five days after their marriage his wife died, on the 14th of February, from the effects of the poison she had taken in her food, placed there by her husband.

The judge, in pronouncing sentence against Green, said:

An intelligent jury have found you guilty, and there is no person who has heard the trial who does not concur in the justice of the verdict. You stand condemned as guilty of having murdered your wife. Your case in all respects exceeds in enormity any of which I have ever heard. It will, no doubt, stand out on the page of history as the most criminally awful case of murder that ever came before court or jury. You murdered her deliberately; you murdered the woman you had sworn but one short week, I may say four days before, to cherish through life; the woman whose destiny had been placed in your keeping, in less than one week after marriage you deliberately poisoned. You pursued your design day and night, repeating the deadly potion from time to time until she expired, and then added to the crime of murder the black crime of perjury, for you violated the most solemn vow you made at the altar.

For this crime Green was hung, on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 1845.

In the burying ground near the village of Berlin two marble tablets were placed, at the heads of the two graves; one bearing the following inscription:

Henry G. Green, born Dec. 30, 1822, died Sept. 10, 1845.

"Prepare to meet thy God."

Another marking the tomb of his wife:

Mary A. W. Green, died Feb. 14, 1845, in the 23d year of her age.

This monument is erected by the citizens of Berlin in memory of Mary Ann Wyatt, wife of Henry G. Green, who was married Feb. 9, 1845, and on the 14th day of the same month was poisoned by her husband with arsenic without any real or pretended cause.

Beautiful, intelligent and virtuous, she was wept over by the community, and the violated law justly exacted the life of her murderer as a penalty for his crime.

THE SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH.

This religious society dates its organization on the 24th of September, 1780. It was first

known as the Sabbatarian church of Christ in Little Hoosick. The first meeting for the purpose of organization was held at the house of Joshua Whitford, on the South Hollow road. Elder John Burdick of Hopkinton, R. I., and Elder John Davis of Farmington, Conn., were the chief organizers of this society. At the first meeting William Coon was selected as elder of the congregation and William Greenman deacon. In 1800 the first house of worship was erected, which was first used for divine service on the 31st of October of that year. It had a seating capacity for about 300 persons and cost about \$2,000. In the month of August, 1821, the building was blown down during a tornado. In 1823 the erection of a new structure on the old church site was begun, which was completed in 1825. In 1848 it was enlarged by the addition of a vestibule and a bell tower, and in 1876 it was further remodeled. The present building was dedicated in the winter of 1825-26, elder William Satterlee officiating. During the erection of the church the society was incorporated. For this purpose a meeting was held at the schoolhouse in the village of Berlin on the 8th of February, 1824. The following persons were elected trustees of the "Seventh Day Baptist society in Berlin": Edward Whitford, Lodowick Saunders, Asa Coon, W. Green and Benjamin Vars.

The following elders have had charge of the spiritual affairs of the society since its organization: Elders William Coon, 1780-1821; Asa Coon, 1821; William Satterlee, 1822-40; J. L. Scott, 1847-49; J. H. Cochran, 1849-53; L. C. Rogers, 1853-57; A. W. Coon, 1857-63; Varnum Hull, 1863-65; Solomon Carpenter, 1865-69; J. Summerbell, 1867-75; and Elder B. F. Rogers to the present time.

The present roll of membership of the society bears the names of 141 persons. This church is in the village of Berlin.

THE FIRST DAY BAPTIST CHURCH.

This society was organized about the close of the revolutionary war. A house of worship built of logs was erected near the present boundary lines of the towns of Berlin and Steplentown. The first settled minister over this society was Elder Justus Hull, who was ordained about the year 1784. He continued his pastoral relations with the society until his death, May 29, 1833. The first meeting held for the purpose of incorporating the society was on the 24th of January, 1824, at the meeting house at Berlin. Daniel Hull, Daniel Gray, Albin Matison, Joseph Crandall and Clark Bly were then elected trustees of the first day Bap-

tist society in the town of Berlin. A second meeting for the same purpose appears to have been held on the 13th of January, 1834, when John Reeve, Joseph Crandall, Ebenezer Robinson, Samuel Green, Jonathan H. Rhodes, William J. Sheldon, Jonathan Nichols, Clark B. Lamphire and Henry Brown were elected trustees.

The following elders have served the congregation: Elders Justus Hull, 1784-1833; Joseph D. Rogers, 1834-1838; Isaac S. Clifford, 1839-1850; William Bowen, 1850-1851; William Smith, 1852-1855; Solomon Gale, 1855-1860; H. A. Gould, 1861-1865; William Garnett, 1866-1867; J. C. Butler, 1867-1868; and Elder N. Mulford, 1869 to present time. The church has at present about 200 members.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

This society dates its organization from January 27, 1830, when it was an auxiliary to the Petersburg church. In 1832 the first house of worship, at South Berlin, was dedicated in September by the Rev. Joseph Rogers. Among the persons named as the organizers of the society are the Revs. John Spoor, Joseph Rogers, David Ford and Abner Jones. In 1865 the church building was repaired and dedicated a second time. It is a frame structure, having about 400 seats. It has on its roll of membership the names of about 45 persons.

The following persons have ministered to this congregation: The Revs. John Spoor, 1831-32; David Ford, — Martin, — Currier, J. Hoag, — Conklin, Benjamin F. Summerbell, W. O. Cushen; — Cox, George Strevell, William Olin, — Hicks, J. R. Taylor and the Rev. George Strevell to present time.

For the purpose of incorporating the society a meeting was held on the 6th of January, 1853, at which the following persons were elected trustees of the Christian chapel of Berlin: Egbert B. Hull, Lorenzo B. Dennison, Harry Hull, Jonathan Dennison, William Jones and Andrew Hewett.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first class of this society was organized in November, 1877, in the good templars' hall in the village of Berlin. In 1778 the erection of a frame house of worship was begun on the road a short distance south of the village. It was dedicated January 19, 1879; the Revs. L. Marshall presiding elder, H. L. Starks and J. W. Coons officiating. The edifice has a seating capacity for about 200 persons, and cost about \$1,500. The church has about 35 members. The pastors of the church have been the Revs. J. M. Appleman, J. W. Coons and the Rev. Charles B. Lewis to date.

THE GERMAN LUTHERAN ZION'S CHURCH.

The congregation of this church was organized on the first Sunday in May, 1863, in South Berlin. In 1863 a frame building for a house of worship was erected, which was dedicated October 23, 1863, the Rev. F. A. Classen officiating. The cost of the building was placed at \$350, and it has a seating capacity for about 250 persons. The number of its present membership is 53. The pastors of this church have been the Revs. John Bochart, F. A. Classen, F. Heinle, Dieterich Bruno, and the Rev. George Vetter.

BERLIN.

This village on account of its situation in the northern part of the town is frequently called North Berlin. The eastern turnpike from Albany to Williamstown, Mass., projected in the early part of this century, passed through this place. In 1836 it is mentioned as having "a small public library, one Seventh day Baptist church, two grist mills, two saw mills, a tavern, three stores, and about 50 dwellings." In the village at present there are three churches, two hotels, a number of stores and shops and about 150 dwellings. The oldest house in Berlin is

said to be the one occupied by James Irwin, which was built about the close of the last century by John Reeve.

BERLIN CENTER.

This place is situated very near the centre of the town on the Little Hoosick creek. As early as the year 1790, the hamlet was an important point in the town, there being here a tavern, a store, a tannery and a potashery. In 1836 the place comprised a church, a store, a tavern and about 16 dwellings. At present the place includes a store and postoffice, a tavern, a carpenter shop, and about a score of buildings.

SOUTH BERLIN.

This hamlet is in the south part of the town, and is situated on the Little Hoosick creek. The Christian church, a cheese factory, two blacksmith shops, a steam saw mill and about 25 buildings compose the place.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN OF BERLIN.

1810.....	3,012	1850.....	2,005
1815.....	1,055	1855.....	2,167
1820.....	1,086	1860.....	2,223
1825.....	1,080	1865.....	2,149
1830.....	2,019	1870.....	2,698
1835.....	1,757	1875.....	2,250
1840.....	1,704	1880.....	2,203
1845.....	1,845		

CHAPTER XVII.

THE TOWN OF NASSAU.

THE HOME LIFE OF THE EARLY SETTLERS—THE PRODUCTIONS OF THE GARDENS—THE SUMMER HABITS OF THE INDIANS—THE LABORS OF AN EARLY MISSIONARY—ERECTION OF PHILIPSTOWN—THE INDIAN TITLES OF THE ANTI-RENTERS—THE BIRTHPLACE OF JOHN A. GRISWOLD—THE CHURCHES OF THE TOWN—ITS VILLAGES AND HAMLETS—POPULATION.

The domestic life of the early settlers of the county of Rensselaer was, no doubt, dull and monotonous. Recreation in its more modern acceptation seldom lightened the constant and increasing cares of the busy households sheltered beneath the rooms of the widely scattered log houses in the manor of Rensselaerwyck. Labor, from early morning until darkening night, permitted little rest and relaxation. While the cultivation of the fields demanded the attention of men the women, besides bearing uncomplainingly a multitude of burdens, industriously toiled in the little spaces of ground attached to every dwelling, known as their gardens.

WOMEN'S WORK.

Referring to the various household duties which engaged the thought and labor of the females, a lady writing of life in the country during the last century, says:

Every one in town or country had a garden; but all the more hardy plants grew in the fields, in rows, amidst the hills, as they were called, of Indian corn. These lofty plants sheltered them from the sun, while the same hoeing served for both; there cabbages, potatoes and other esculent roots, with a variety of gourds, grew to a great size and were of an excellent quality. Kidney-beans, asparagus, celery, cucumbers, etc., were only admitted into the garden, into which no foot of man intruded, after it was dug in spring. Here were no trees; those grew in the orchard in high perfection. Strawberries and many high-flavored wild fruits of the shrub kind abounded so much in the woods that they did not think of cultivating them in their gardens, which were extremely neat but small, not by any means calculated for walking in. I think I yet see what I have often beheld

both in town and country, a respectable mistress of a family going out to her garden, in an April morning, with her great calash, her little pointed basket of seeds, and her rake over her shoulder, to her labors. These were by no means figurative. "From morn till noon, from noon till dewy eve," a woman, in very easy circumstances and abundantly gentle in form and manners, would sow, and plant, and rake, incessantly. These fair gardeners were also great florists; their emulation and solicitude in this pleasing employment did produce "flowers worthy of paradise." Though not set in "curious knots," they were arranged in beds, the varieties of each kind by themselves; this, if not varied and elegant, was at least rich and gay.

THE FRIENDLY INDIANS.

The Indians from whom the various tracts of land had been purchased, from time to time, returned to the places where they had roamed in quest of game before the white men had put the ground under tillage. They manifested in the days of peace strong friendly feelings toward the families of the settlers. The visitation of these "wild men," as the Dutch at first called the aboriginal inhabitants of the upper Hudson, were generally made in summer. The writer already quoted gives a very interesting description of the habits of the red men on these occasions, when they made their home for a season in the vicinity of the residences of the more wealthy and benevolent inhabitants of Rensselaerwyck. She remarks:

They generally built a slight wigwam under shelter of the orchard fence on the shadiest side, and never were neighbors more harmless and peaceable and obliging—I might truly add, industrious, for in one way or other they were constantly occupied. The women and their children employed

themselves in many ingenious handicrafts, which, since the introduction of European arts and manufactures, have greatly declined.

INDIAN HANDICRAFT.

Baking trays, wooden dishes, ladles and spoons, shovels and rakes, brooms of a peculiar manufacture, made by splitting a birch block into slender but tough filaments, enriched with the most beautiful colors, which they alone knew how to extract from vegetable substances and incorporate with the wood. They made also of the birch-bark (which is here so strong and tenacious that cradles and canoes are made of it,) many receptacles for holding fruit and other things, curiously adorned with embroidery not inelegant, done with the sinews of deer; and leggins and moccasins, a very comfortable and highly ornamented substitute for shoes and stockings, then universally used in winter among the men of our own people.

They had also a beautiful manufacture of deer skin, softened to the consistence of the finest chamois leather, and embroidered with beads and wampum formed like bugles; these with great art and industry they formed out of shells, which had the appearance of fine white porcelain, veined with purple. This embroidery showed both skill and taste, and was among themselves highly valued. They had belts, large embroidered garters and many other ornaments, formed, first of deer sinews, divided to the size of coarse thread, and afterwards, when they obtained worsted thread from us, of that material, formed in a manner which I could never comprehend. It was neither knitted nor wrought in the manner of a net, nor yet woven; but the texture was more like that of an officer's sash than anything I can compare it to.

While the women and children were thus employed the men sometimes assisted them in the more laborious part of their business, but oftener occupied themselves in fishing on the rivers, and drying or preserving, by means of smoke, in sheds erected for the purpose, sturgeon and large eels, which they caught in great quantities and of an extraordinary size, for winter provision.

Boys on the verge of manhood and ambitious to be admitted into the hunting parties of the ensuing winter, exercised themselves in trying to improve their skill in archery, by shooting birds, squirrels and raccoons. * * * The summer residence of these ingenious artisans promoted a great intimacy between the females of the vicinity and the Indian women, whose sagacity and comprehension of mind were beyond belief.

THE ANTIPATHY OF THE INDIANS TOWARD THE NEGROES.

It is a singular circumstance that though they saw the negroes in every respectable family not only treated with humanity but cherished with parental kindness, they always regarded them with contempt and dislike as an inferior race, and would have no communication with them. It was necessary, then, that all conversations should be

held and all business transacted with these females by the mistress of the family. In the infancy of the settlement the Indian language was familiar to the more intelligent inhabitants, who found it very useful, and were no doubt pleased with its nervous and emphatic idiom, and its lofty and sonorous cadence. It was, indeed, a noble and copious language, when one considers that it served as the vehicle of thought to a people whose ideas and sphere of action we should consider as so very confined.

THE MISSIONARY OF KAMAMUCK.

The Christian zeal of the Rev. David Brainard for the conversion of the Indians inhabiting that part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, then designated as Kamamuck, now included within the boundaries of the town of Nassau, drew this devoted and self-denying missionary to this field of gospel work. It is said that this evangelist entered upon his brief residence in this section on the 1st of April, 1743. The rude, one-roomed, unfloored log cabin of an industrious pioneer, a Scotchman, became his home. Here, in the southeastern part of the territory embraced within the present limits of the town of Nassau, the Rev. David Brainard disseminated the truths of the Christian religion to the friendly Indians. The short visit of the pious man was concluded by his removal, by reason of ill health, on May 1, 1744. The present hamlet of Brainard was named in honor of this zealous missionary's work in this section among the Indians.

About the year 1760 Hugh Wilson and Joseph Primmer became settlers of two tracts of land lying near the present body of water on the western bounds of the town, known as Hoag's pond. At a close remove from it a number of Stockbridge Indians had a village, which they called Ontikehomuck. Their chief's name was Kashekekomuck. On the 16th of May, 1760, these Indians sold two pieces of land to Hugh Wilson and Joseph Primmer, one being north and the other south of the pond.

As designated on the map of the manor of Rensselaerwyck made by Jno. R. Blecker, in 1767, the following persons were at that time residing within the territory of the present town of Nassau: Hugh Wilson, Henry Post, John W. Schermerhorn and John, McCagg. Subsequently other settlers were added to this small number of pioneers. Thomas Hicks, Daniel Litz, Titus Huested, Majof Abijah Bush, Abraham Holmes, James Marks, John B. Adair, William Root, Jonathan Williams, Amaziah Bailey, Reuben Bateman, David Waterbury, Patrick McGee and James H. Ball took up leases of land from the patroon during the latter part of the century.

Hoag's pond took its name from an early settler named Jonathan Hoag, who on May 16, 1792, purchased a tract of land from Stephen Van Rensselaer, which included the pond, which was then known as the "Vly," or "Beaver dam." This enterprising pioneer erected, a short distance north of the site of the Nassau mills, a grist mill, which was destroyed by fire in 1818. Jonathan Hoag represented his district in the state legislature during the years 1798 and 1799.

CREATION OF THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN.

By "An act to divide the towns of Peterburgh, Stephentown and Schodack, in the county of Rensselaer, into five towns," passed by the state legislature March 21, 1806, the town of Philipstown was erected. The boundaries of the town are given as follows:

All the remaining part of the town of Stephentown lying west of a line running parallel with the east line of the said town of Stephentown, at a distance of eight miles from the said east line, and all that part of the town of Schodack lying east of the eight mile stake, standing a little east of the house of Timothy Philips, and extending southerly to Jonathan Hoag's grist-mill pond, and thence southerly as the creek runs to the north bounds of the county of Columbia, shall be a separate town by the name of Philipstown; and that the first town meeting shall be held at the house of Pliny Miller.

The name of the town was changed by "An act to change the names of towns therein mentioned," passed April 6, 1808. The clause in the act referring to it reads: "The town of Philipstown, in the county of Rensselaer, shall be named Nassau."

THE FIRST TOWN OFFICERS.

The first town meeting for the election of town officers was held on the 1st of April, 1806, at the house of Pliny Miller, inn-holder. The following persons were elected: Supervisor, Jonathan Hoag; town clerk, William C. Elmore; assessors, Fenner Palmer, Joseph Finch, Elijah Adams, Joseph S. Gale and Titus Husted; collector, Charles Mason; overseers of the poor, Samuel Gale and David Waterbury; commissioners of highways, Fenner Palmer, Enoch Benedict and James H. Ball; constables, Charles Mason, William King and Ebenezer Martin; fence viewers, Enoch Benedict, Fenner Palmer, Benjamin Mason, Titus Husted, Timothy Sibley, Gershorn Tabor, Samuel Knapp, John Turner and Jeremiah Macks; poundmasters, Jonathan Hoag, Abijah Bush and Isaac Dunham. At this meeting 39 overseers of highways were elected.

THE ANTI-RENT INDIANS.

During the anti-rent troubles of 1839-47, a

large number of the tenants of the patroon of Rensselaerwyck who at the time occupied leased farms in the town of Nassau became disaffected. An anti-rent organization was formed at the "old Martin tavern," at Hoag's Corners. It was determined by its members that they would resist the collection of ground rents and by various ways resist the officers of the law in the enforcement of the demands of the patroon. The different officers of the organization were designated by high-sounding titles, derived from the Indians. Among the names bestowed were "Big Thunder" to Dr. Smith A. Boughton of Alps, "Little Thunder" to Franklin Abbott, a resident of Hoag's Corners, and "Tuscarora" to Thomas Thompson of Hoag's Corners.

On one occasion the sheriff of Rensselaer county, Gideon Reynolds, with a *posse comitatus* of 25 men, was captured by this organization, the members of which were accustomed to array themselves in outlandish Indian costume, and, with painted faces, ride with alarming yells on horseback through the country about the time a collection of rents was demanded. The capture was made near Alps. The horses of the sheriff and his company of law-sustainers were turned loose, and the sheriff and his *posse* were compelled to return a part of the way to their homes on foot. A deputy, on whom the civil process were found, was tarred and feathered. Deputy Sheriff Lewis of Nassau village was on another occasion similarly treated by the anti-renters.

MEN OF FAME.

The village of Nassau on the 11th of November, 1818, became the birthplace of John Augustus Griswold. The latter in 1823, 1831 and 1835 was a member of the assembly from Rensselaer county.

Major Gen. John E. Wool for a number of years made the village of Nassau his residence.

It is said that at the Van Valkenburgh inn at Nassau Joseph Bonaparte, the Marquis de Lafayette, Major Gen. Lewis Cass, Martin Van Buren, Gov. Clinton, and other distinguished persons have partaken of its cheer and comforts.

CHURCHES.

The erection of the first church in the vicinity of Hoag's pond, on the western boundaries of the town, in 1787, by a number of persons belonging to the Dutch Reformed, Lutheran and Presbyterian churches, was prior to the preaching of the Rev. Jacobus V. C. Romeyn in a barn which once stood opposite the site of the dwelling of Dr. Samuel McClellan, in Nassau village.

In 1795 a house of worship of an undenominational character was erected in the village of

Nassau. The building stood near the site of the present Reformed church parsonage, on Chatham street.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NASSAU.

The society of the first Baptist church, it is said, was organized about the year 1790, and a house of worship erected a short distance east of Nassau village. On the 7th of December, 1850, the following persons were elected trustees of "the First Baptist church and society in Nassau:" David Shaver, Ezra Hemingway and Bernard H. Lord.

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF NASSAU.

The certificate of the incorporation of this church recites that the members of the society assembled at their meeting house on Saturday, January 18, 1845, and elected the following persons trustees of the "Second Baptist church and society in Nassau": Stephen Phillips, Alexander H. Tucker and Caleb S. Vickery. This congregation was gathered together about the year 1820.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AT EAST NASSAU.

At quite an early date in the present century a Baptist society was organized at East Nassau. The present house of worship was erected in 1879, the former church building having been destroyed by fire. The new house was dedicated October 15, 1879, the Rev. W. W. Everts officiating. It has a seating capacity for about 200 persons. The roll of membership of the church bears 53 signatures.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALPS.

This society was formed in 1876. The erection of a church was commenced the same year and was first used for worship on the day of dedication, January 18, 1877. The dedicatory services were performed by the Revs. J. M. Langworthy, J. B. Coleman, William Fuller and W. H. Fonderden. The building cost about \$1,700, and has a seating capacity for about 250 persons. The number of members is 38. The church was incorporated July 29, 1878. The pastors of the church have been the Revs. W. H. Fonderden and William H. Fuller. The church is without a pastor at this time.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT HOAG'S CORNERS.

The house of worship of the society of Baptists at Hoag's Corners was erected in 1861-62. The congregation is a part of the Baptist society of North Nassau.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NASSAU.

On November 11, 1802, the people who had been steadily worshipping in the Union church erected in 1795, in Union village, now called Nassau, held a meeting and elected Andrew

Griffin and Joseph Boughton elders, and William Southworth and John Strong deacons. For the use of the new body a house of worship was erected, and the building was dedicated January 13, 1828. This edifice stood northwest of the Nassau academy building. In 1848 it was moved to its present site.

The society was incorporated in 1822, Chauncey Porter, Samuel Griffith and Samuel B. Laidlow being elected trustees of the "Presbyterian church of Nassau" on the 8th of May of that year.

The pastors of this church have been the Revs. Jonas Coe, John Younglove, — Young and Joel T. Benedict. The Rev. Ezra D. Kinney, 1828-29; the Rev. Solomon I. Tracy, 1830-33; the Rev. Washington Rosevelt, 1834-36; the Rev. Ezra D. Kinney, 1837-38; the Rev. S. Bryant, 1840-42; the Rev. John Batey, 1842-43; the Rev. Joseph Hurlburt, 1844-48; the Rev. Fayette Shepherd, 1850-52; the Rev. Robert Day, 1853-58; the Rev. Charles Doolittle, 1859-67; the Rev. G. R. Alden, 1869-70; the Rev. C. S. Sherman, 871-75; and the Rev. G. R. Knowles, 1876-78.

THE ALPS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

A Presbyterian society was organized about the latter part of the last century, in the northern part of the town. A house of worship was erected, which about 35 years afterwards was destroyed by fire.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EAST NASSAU.

This society was organized in 1807 at East Nassau by the Rev. John Younglove. The Union church was used for divine worship until it was burned in 1853. In the following year a Presbyterian meeting house was erected, which in January, 1855, was dedicated.

The society was incorporated July 8, 1853, when the following persons were elected trustees: John H. Haynes, Joseph Phillips, John Bush and William H. Sherman.

The pastors of this church have been the Revs. Barker, Laidlow, Henderson, Henry Neill, Acker and Knowles. The Rev. W. E. Faulkner is the present pastor.

PROTESTANT REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH OF NASSAU.

In the autumn of 1803 this society was organized by the order of the classis of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of Rensselaer. The Rev. Jacob Sickels, D. D., ordained the first consistory of the church, which included the following persons: Dennis Harder, Henry Goes, Nicholas Smith and Abraham Welch elders, and George Melius, Michael T. Smith, William Jacoby and Nicholas T. Smith. Until the year 1821 this charge was in connection

with the church at Schodack. The Union church was first used by this congregation for public worship. In 1820 a lot was purchased of Chauncey Porter, on which a house of worship was erected, which was finished December 1, 1820. The congregation purchased the old Union church or Free church building. On its site, in 1839, the present parsonage of this church was erected. The roll of membership of this church bears the signatures of about 350 persons.

The following persons have served the congregation as pastors: The Rev. Christian Bork, 1804-6; the Rev. Jesse Fonda, 1809-13; the Rev. Peter Van Buren, 1814-20; from the time of the separation of the church from the charge of Schodack, the Rev. James Romeyn, 1821-27; the Rev. J. F. Morris, 1829-32; the Rev. Christopher Hunt, 1832-37; the Rev. John Knox, 1838-41; the Rev. Edwin Holmes, 1841-52; the Rev. Richard H. Steele, 1852-63; the Rev. Isaac Collier, 1864-66, and the Rev. Alfred H. Brush, 1867 to the present time.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT NASSAU.

About a half a century ago a class of Methodists was organized in Nassau village. The meeting house of this society was a building situated a short distance west of the place. This was sold and the present house of worship erected opposite the Dutch Reformed church. The edifice was dedicated in 1833, the Rev. — Carpenter preaching the dedicatory sermon.

The pastors of this church have been the Revs. William Anson, Aaron Schofield, — Amidon, Samuel Howe, Samuel Eighmy, Daniel Brayton, Elias Vanderlip, Seymour Coleman, Coles Carpenter, — Osborn, John Clark, John Pegg, — Pelton, Abiathan Osborn, D. D., John Alley, C. R. Morris, — Sprague, Oliver Emerson, Edward Asa, Samuel Stover, William A. Miller, Lewis Potter, J. W. Belknap, Rufus Pratt, William N. Frazer, Hiram Chase, — Dwight, H. C. Sexton, F. Soule, P. M. Hitchcock, A. Heath, W. H. Washburn, H. W. Slocum, A. D. Heath and C. M. Clark.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT EAST NASSAU.

This society was incorporated in 1834. On the 18th of April of that year a election was held for trustees in the Union Methodist meeting house at East Nassau, and the following persons were elected trustees of the Union Methodist church at East Nassau: Pliny Gould, Horace Clark, David Phillips, C. Rhodes and Erastus Hemmingway. The society dates its organization in 1830. The house of worship used by the society was built in 1834.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT BRAINARD.

A society of Methodists was organized in the southern part of the town about the year 1840. A house of worship was erected that year at Brainard, on land presented by Seth Hastings. A larger and more commodious structure was built in 1875, west of the old building. This charge is connected with the church at Nassau.

FREE UNION METHODIST CHURCH.

A house of worship erected east of Dunham Hollow belongs to the society of Methodists. It is known as the Free Union Methodist church.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

At Nassau village there is a small congregation of Roman Catholics. A neat chapel has been built by the congregation.

THE VILLAGE OF NASSAU.

This place was early known as Union village. It is situated in the southwestern part of the town, near the west boundary line. A post-office was established at this point in 1811. The village was incorporated March 12, 1819. The first village offices under the act were: Wm. B. Hermance, Chauncey Porter, Samuel B. Ludlow, Chester Griswold and Ebenezer Bassett, trustees; Henry Goodrich, collector, and Calvin Pardee, treasurer. The present charter was passed April 17, 1866.

The village is spoken of in 1836 as being in "a pleasant vale on the turnpike road from Albany to New Lebanon, 11½ miles southeast of the former, 18 miles from Troy, and on the Valatie creek; has one Baptist, one Methodist and one Presbyterian church; an academy incorporated in 1835, a grist mill and a saw mill, one tavern, two stores and about 40 dwellings."

Nassau at present is a very attractive village, and has about 450 inhabitants and about 90 dwelling houses, four churches, two hotels, four stores and about 30 shops and manufacturing places. Among the latter are a grist mill, a saw mill and a foundry.

About the year 1835 a fire company was organized in the village and was known as old No. 1 Washington engine company. No. 1 was organized July 18, 1872.

The Nassau Gazette was issued in December, 1850, by J. M. Geer. It was shortly after discontinued.

The Nassau, Schodack and Chatham mutual insurance company was organized in 1855.

Gratitude lodge of F. and A. Masons, No. 674 sprang from Nassau lodge, the first meeting under the dispensation to the latter being held September 26, 1867. The charter to Gratitude lodge is dated June 19, 1868. The first officers under this charter were George L.

Eighmy, worshipful master; James Van Allen, senior warden, and George B. Mitchell, junior warden.

EAST NASSAU.

The village of East Nassau, in the southeastern part of the town, is situated on Kinderhook creek. It was early known as Schermerhorn's—John W. Schermerhorn keeping the first tavern at this point. A postoffice was established here in 1830.

In 1836 it was described as being at the confluence of the Kinderhook and Tackawasick creeks, 16 miles southeast of Albany, 19 miles from Troy, containing one Methodist and one Baptist churches, one cotton, one woolen and one stoneware factories; a tannery, two taverns, two stores and from 50 to 60 dwellings.

The present population of the village is about 200. There are now in the village 60 houses, three churches—a Presbyterian, a Baptist and a Methodist—two taverns, two stores, two blacksmith shops, two wagon-makers' shops and two saw mills.

NORTH NASSAU.

This hamlet is situated in the northern part of the town. A postoffice was established at this point about 1845, of which James H. Ball was first postmaster. North Nassau contains a Baptist church, a store and a small number of dwellings.

HOAG'S CORNERS.

This hamlet is situated on the Tackawasick creek. About the year 1832 the site of this place was covered with heavy timber, and it is said that 10 saw mills were erected in the vicinity. The place derives its name from William Hoag, who here kept a hotel as early as the year 1825. About 1832 a postoffice was established at this point. The present population of the Corners is 235. There are 56 dwellings, a Baptist church, a hotel and four stores and four blacksmith shops in the place.

BRAINARD.

This hamlet was early known as Brainard's Bridge, in honor of Joseph Brainard, who built the bridge over Kinderhook creek. It was afterwards changed to Brainard, in honor of the Rev. David Brainard, the Indian missionary. In 1836 it is spoken of as being upon the Kinderhook creek, 24 miles from Troy, having a cotton and woolen factory, 1 tavern, 2 stores and 40 dwellings. The Harlem extension railroad has a station near the place. The place now comprises a Methodist church, a store, a hotel and a number of dwellings.

ALPS.

In 1836 this hamlet in the northern part of the town is spoken of as having two taverns, a store and about 20 dwellings, and being 16 miles from Troy. At this point at present there are a church, a store and about 30 buildings. Jonathan G. Taft had a store at Alps about a half century ago.

DUNHAM HOLLOW.

This hamlet derives its name from Isaac Dunham, who settled here about the beginning of the century. It is in the northeastern part of the town, and contains a small foundry, a grist mill, a saw mill, a hoop factory, a blacksmith shop and a small number of dwellings.

MILLER'S CORNERS.

This is a hamlet composed of a small collection of houses in the northwestern part of the town. About 40 years ago George Miller kept a store at this point.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

1810.....	2,501	1850.....	3,291
1815.....	2,747	1855.....	3,668
1820.....	2,873	1860.....	3,902
1825.....	2,935	1865.....	2,894
1830.....	3,255	1870.....	2,766
1835.....	3,227	1875.....	2,657
1840.....	3,236	1880.....	2,629
1845.....	3,104		

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN.

BOUNDARY LINE TROUBLES — NEW YORK EXTENDING TO THE CONNECTICUT RIVER — THE SHERIFF OF ALBANY COUNTY RESISTED — ONE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD FOR THE ARREST OF ETHAN ALLEN — THE FIRST SETTLER OF JERICHO HOLLOW — STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS'S ANCESTORS — HOUSES OF ENTERTAINMENT IN 1788 — OLD MILITARY OFFICERS — A CENSUS OF SLAVES IN THE TOWN — HISTORIC REVIEW OF CHURCHES — VILLAGES AND HAMLETS — CENSUS STATISTICS.

The newly discovered country of America, which attracted in the seventeenth century a large number of emigrants from Europe to its shores, was of such vast an extent that very little of its true geography and topography was sufficiently known to furnish what might be thought correct and explicit information by which important boundary lines might be designated, as circumscribing the various land grants that had been conveyed by the kings of those countries that claimed portions of the continent by right of discovery. For more than a century after the occupancy of the different portions of the territory of the new country by various companies and individual proprietors questions arose regarding the boundary lines of the greater and lesser divisions of land.

THE EASTERN BOUNDARY LINE DISPUTE.

The indefinite wording of the patent of New England granted by King James I. in 1620, was for a long time the cause of much controversy and belligerence respecting the position of the boundary line which should legally separate the province of New York from the territories of the adjacent New England provinces. In 1763, December 28, for the purpose of settling the questions at issue, Lieut. Gov. Cadwallader Colden of the province of New York issued a proclamation declaring the Connecticut river to be the east bounds of the province of New York. In this paper the lieutenant governor, in addressing the people of the province, says:

To prevent therefore the Incautions from becoming Purchasers of the Lands so granted: to assert the Rights, and fully to maintain the juris-

diction of the Government of this His majesty's Province of New York; I have thought fit, with the advice of His majesty's Council, to issue this Proclamation, hereby commanding and requiring all Judges, Justices and other Civil Officers within the same to continue to exercise Jurisdiction in their Respective Functions, as far as to the Banks of Connecticut river, the undoubted Eastern Limits of that Part of the Province of New York, notwithstanding any contrariety of Jurisdiction claimed by the Government of New Hampshire, or any Grants of land Westward of that River, made by the said Government, and I do hereby enjoin the High Sheriff of the County of Albany, to return to me or the Commander in chief, the Names of all and every Person and Persons, who under grants of the Government of New Hampshire, do or shall hold the Possession of any Lands Westward of Connecticut River, that they may be proceeded against according to Law.

Benning Wentworth who was at this time governor of the province of New Hampshire issued a counter proclamation, March 13, 1764, commanding all the civil officers of that province "to deal with any person, or persons, that may presume to interrupt the inhabitants or settlers on said lands as to law and justice doth appertain, the pretended right of jurisdiction mentioned in the aforesaid proclamation notwithstanding."

The ejection of the settlers from the lands west of the Connecticut river as ordered by the proclamation of the lieutenant governor of New York, which tracts they had purchased of Governor Wentworth, as soon as the sheriff of Albany county attempted it, was vigorously resisted. It is said that the governor of New

Hampshire from the year 1763 to 1768 had granted to a large number of persons no less than 138 townships, and that many settlers, generally from Connecticut, had taken up the lands so granted.

TROUBLES AT HOSECK.

As connected with the history of Rensselaer county, it may be related that the sheriff of Albany county, on the 17th of August, 1761, received intelligence from "Hoseck," that the "New Hampshire people had turned Hans Jerry Creiger, an inhabitant under the proprietors of Hoseck patent, out of possession of his lands and tenements, drove off his cattle and took with them a parcel of Indian corn, and for the redemption of the cattle compelled him to pay \$45; and the said express further informed him that the said New Hampshire people were the next day to be at the houses of Peter Voss and Bastiane Deale in order in like manner to dispossess them of their possessions, which they had peaceably enjoyed under the proprietors of said Hoseck patent for upwards of three years, except when driven off by the enemy (Indians) during the two last wars."

The sheriff of Albany county, in company with "two justices and a few other good people of this province," proceeded to Hoosick, where, on his arrival, he was told that the New Hampshire people would not come until the following Monday. Having heard that the New Hampshire people were at the houses of Voss and Deale, he went thither immediately, but on his arrival he found that they had departed. He followed the party, and, overtaking them, arrested four of the number and carried them to Albany, where they were confined in the county jail.

THE BENNINGTON MOB.

What was known as "the Bennington mob" at this period of local disturbance, became a great terror to the people living within the county of Albany, adjoining the province of New Hampshire. Of this lawless body of men it was said that they had seized, insulted and terrified magistrates and other civil officers so that they dare not execute their respective functions; rescued prisoners for debt, assumed to themselves military commands and judicial powers; burned and demolished the houses and property and beat and abused the persons of many of his majesty's subjects, expelled them from their possessions, and put a period to the administrations of justice, and spread terror and destruction throughout that part of the country which was exposed to their oppression.

For the purpose of suppressing these dis-

turbances the governor, by the recommendation of the assembly of the province of New York, issued a proclamation, March 9, 1774, "enjoining and commanding all magistrates, justices of the peace, sheriffs and other civil officers of the counties of Albany and Charlotte to apprehend and take" the ringleaders of the Bennington mob and "to commit them to safe and secure custody in the gaol of the city and county of Albany to answer for the several offenses and to be dealt with according to law." A reward of £100 was offered for the apprehension of Ethan Allen of Bennington, yeoman, also for the apprehension of Remember Baker, and £50 for the arrest of Seth Warner, Robert Cochran, Peleg Sunderland, Sylvanus Brown, James Breckenridge and John Smith.

BLOODY AFFRAYS ALONG THE MASSACHUSETTS LINE.

Between the years 1765 and 1769 efforts were unsuccessfully made to settle the boundary line between the provinces of New York and Massachusetts. While New York claimed a right to the territory to the Connecticut river, Massachusetts insisted on her ownership of the country as far as the Pacific ocean. Emigrants from the latter province took up land in the manor of Rensselaerwyck without any permission being granted by the patroon. Force being often employed to eject them, blood was frequently shed in doing it. Commissioners were appointed by the two provinces to determine the position of the boundary line, who met at New Haven, October 1, 1767. It was agreed by them that the western line of Massachusetts should be fixed at 20 miles east of the Hudson river, but the commissioners could not agree as to the way in which the line should be determined. However, by an agreement, dated May 18, 1773, the boundary line on the eastern part of the province was settled to begin at the northwest angle of the oblong and to run thence north 21° 10' 30" to the north line of Massachusetts.

In December, 1781 Vermont took measures to resist the territorial claims of New York respecting the position of the disputed boundary line. To enforce obedience to the laws of New York Gen. Gansevoort had marched with a body of soldiery into the districts of Schaghticoke and Hoosick, where he was confronted by Col. Walbridge. The influence of Gen. Washington led to less bloody means for the adjudication of these conflicting claims. A proposition was made on the part of New York that if the legislature of Vermont, before the first of January, 1792, should agree that on or before the first of June, 1794, that state should pay to

New York the sum of \$30,000, that all right to lands under grants from the government of the colony of New York, or from the state of New York should cease, those excepted which had been made in confirmation of the grants of New Hampshire. The border troubles which had continued for 26 years, during which only one life had been lost, were terminated on the 28th of October, 1790, by Vermont consenting to the terms proposed by New York. On the 15th of February, 1791, Vermont became a state of the Union.

FIRST SETTLERS.

The largest number of the early settlers of the town of Stephentown were from the New England colonies. Many came from Rhode Island, settling upon the land of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, adjoining the Massachusetts line. Among the first of the New England emigrants to make their homes on this part of the great manor were Joshua, Caleb and Benjamin Gardner, three brothers: Asa Douglas, Elnathan Sweet, Nathaniel Rose-Joseph Carpenter, Alexander Brown and Joseph Rogers. Most of these settled here about the year 1766. William Douglas, a grandson of Asa Douglas, is said to have been the first child born in this part of the manor. The Hon. Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois was a descendant of this Douglas family.

In the year 1766, it is said that Asa Douglas came from Plainfield, Conn., into this wilderness portion of the manor in search of suitable land for farming purposes. Having met an Indian chief he made known his object. The Indian told him that there was fertile land in what was shortly afterwards designated as "Jericho hollow." He, on a survey of the ground described by the Indian, was satisfied of its suitability for farming purposes, and at once took up about one thousand acres for cultivation. One half of this land now lies in the state of Massachusetts. Of the three Gardner brothers, Caleb's house was immediately on the boundary line of Massachusetts and New York. Joshua Gardner, in 1774, is said to have cut a private road through the thick woods from the "old east road," over the mountain to the place where he had erected his log house. Job Gardner sometime after the year 1777 moved from Providence, R. I., to the vicinity of his three brothers' farms.

Among the names of settlers which appear upon the district records in 1784, are the following: Stephen Arnold, Samuel Bailey, Gideon Brayton, Aaron Budlong, Alexander Case, Hezekiah Coon, John Forbes, Benjamin Green, Jacob Green, Edward Hoard, Jonathan

Howard, Ezekiel Huntington, William Kittel, 2d., Abel Lewis, Augustus Lewis, Obadiah Matthews, Timothy Mattison, Jonathan Niles, Nathaniel Niles, William Reynolds, William Rose, Benjamin Sackett, William Sanford, John W. Schernierhorn, Randal Shiner, Samuel Sweet, Nathan Tanner, Elijah West, Joshua Whitford, Abraham Winston and Walter Worden.

EARLY ROAD MAKING.

The following extract from the proceedings of the common council of Albany, of May 6, 1770, shows what measures were taken to open a road through Stephentown at that early day:

Levy Peas applied to this board for assistance to make a road from his house through Stephentown to the house of Andries Michal.

Resolved, That this board will give 20 £ to the inhabitants of Stephentown, or such of them as will undertake to make a good and sufficient waggon road and Bridges from the house of Levy Peas thro' Stephen Town to the House of Andries Michal, along the Markt Trees shewn to Mr. Marselis and Alderman Ten Brook, in behalf of the widow Van Rensselaer, undertake to pay 20, £ more.

STEPHENTOWN DISTRICT.

By "an act to divide the east district of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the county of Albany," passed March 29, 1784, that part of the manor known as the Stephentown district was formed. The act designated its boundaries as follows:

That the said east district of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the county of Albany, shall be and is hereby declared to be divided into two districts by the following line: Beginning at a point in the division line between the said east district of the manor of Rensselaer and the district of Kinderhook, 10 miles distant from Hudson's river, and thence running northerly to a point in the division line of the said east district of the manor of Rensselaerwyck and the district of Schactikoke, nine miles distant from the said Hudson river.

That all the lands immediately before the passage of this act, comprehended within the said east district of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, lying westward of the aforesaid division line, shall be one separate and distinct district and be called by the name of the Rensselaerwyck district; and that all the lands immediately before the passing of this act comprehended within the said east district of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, and lying eastward of the aforesaid line, shall be one separate and distinct district, and be called by the name of Stephentown district. . . .

The inhabitants of the district of Stephentown to hold their first annual meeting at the dwelling house of Daniel Hull, esq., to elect a supervisor, town clerk and all the other town officers.

The designation of the name Stephentown

was given in honor of Stephen Van Rensselaer, the patron of the manor.

Under the provisions of the act Caleb Bentley was elected, in 1784, supervisor of the district, and Jonathan Niles, clerk.

THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN ERECTED.

By "an act for dividing the counties of this state into towns," passed March 7, 1788, the town of Stephentown was erected. The town was bounded as follows:

All that part of the said county of Albany bounded easterly by the east bounds of this state, southerly by the county of Columbia, westerly by the said town of Rensselaerwyck, and northerly by the north bounds of the said manor of Rensselaerwyck, shall be and hereby is erected into a town by the name of Stephentown.

A portion of the territory of the town was subtracted, March 18, 1791, to form the town of Petersburg, and parts, in 1806, to make the towns of Berlin and Philipstown, (Nassau).

INNS AND TAVERNS IN 1788.

The inns and taverns scattered along the public roads of the newly-settled territory of northern New York, besides being places of entertainment, were generally points at which the people gathered at certain times for the transaction of business connected with the towns and districts of the counties. At the time the town of Stephentown was erected each inn and tavern keeper was required to enter into recognizance to the people of the state of New York in the sum of £50 not to keep a disorderly house or suffer any cock fighting, gaming or playing with cards or dice, or keep any billiard table or other gaming table or shuffle board within it. In regard to the selling of strong liquors, exceptions were made for the sale of metheglin, currant wine, cherry wine and cider made by the inn-keepers. At each tavern at least two spare beds for guests with good and sufficient sheeting and covering were to be kept in accordance with the demands of the law. It was also required that each tavern keeper should provide good and sufficient stabling and provender for four horses or cattle, and hay and pasturage in summer. No liquors were allowed to be sold to apprentices, servants and slaves. No inn-keeper could collect a debt higher than 10 shillings for liquors sold to travelers. Each keeper of an inn or tavern was required 30 days after receiving license to put up and fix a proper sign on or adjacent to this front of his house, with his name thereon. Every month's neglect in complying with this provision of the law sub-

jected the inn-keeper to the payment of 10 shillings to the state.

DISTRICT MILITARY IN 1788.

In 1788 the following persons were recommended as officers to form a new regiment within the district of Hoosick and Stephentown:

Thomas Sickels, lieutenant-colonel commanding; Peter Van Rensselaer, first major; Samuel Shaw, second major.

LIGHT INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Zacharias W. Sickels, captain; Henry Brown, lieutenant; Samuel Latham, ensign.
Thomas Palmer, captain; Luke Green, lieutenant; Joshua Whiteford, ensign.

BATTALION OFFICERS.

Jacob Van Valkenburgh, captain; Isaac Turner, lieutenant; Henry Lansing, ensign.
Egbert Brown, captain; John Van Wormer, lieutenant; Thomas Powell, ensign.

Jacob Van Ness, captain; Zach. G. Sickels, lieutenant; John Waldo, jr., ensign.
Eldred Fonda, captain; Joseph Brown, lieutenant; Gideon Olmstead, ensign.

Charles Green, captain; Randall Spencer, lieutenant; John Green, ensign.
Hezekiah Hull, captain; Clark Bly, lieutenant; Jonathan Green, ensign.

Matthew Randall, captain; Jacob Lampman, lieutenant; Abel Lewis, ensign.
Isaac Gates, captain; John Wilkenson, lieutenant; William Jones, ensign.

STAFF OFFICERS.

James Sickels, adjutant; Oliver Hull, quartermaster; David Van Rensselaer, paymaster; Joseph Spencer, surgeon; Job Tripp, surgeon's mate.

Another paper bearing date of 1788 contains the names of the following officers, and the subjoined general order:

Peter Van Rensselaer, lieutenant colonel commanding.

Jonathan Niles, major in General Henry K. Van Rensselaer's brigade, to rank from the 1st of March 1788 inclusive.

James Jones and Hosea Moffit, captains.

LIGHT INFANTRY.

Ichabod Cone, captain; Reuben Delause, lieutenant; Henry Platt, ensign.

John Whyte, captain; Benjamin Sackett, lieutenant; Nathaniel Spring, ensign.

James Brown, captain; Joseph Rogers, jr., lieutenant; Tobias Brockway, ensign.

James Warren, captain; Eleazar Cone, lieutenant; Enos Steward, ensign.

Daniel Gray, captain; Jeremiah Griffith, lieutenant; Stephen Maxson, jr., ensign.

Bernard Moon, captain; Wyatt Rose, lieutenant; Roger Jones, ensign.

General orders New York: His excellency, the commander in chief, is pleased to direct that the companies heretofore commanded by Lieutenant Peter Van Rensselaer while a major be now considered as a regiment and formed accordingly.

Those commanded by Major Samuel Shaw and those commanded by Major Jonathan Niles, while captains, be considered as separate battalions and for their accommodation, until further orders, parade on their respective battalion parades.

ELECTION RETURNS.

The election returns of that part of ALBANY county now embraced in the county of Rensse-

laer, when opened on the 28th of April, 1789, for governor, showed the following vote :

Towns.	Clinton.	Votes.
Hoosick.....	31	33
Stephentown.....	21	173
Rensselaerwyck.....	23	188
Schaghticoke.....	7	54
Pittstown.....	36	31

At this period an election in the manor of Rensselaerwyck frequently occupied an entire week. Sunday being excepted. Gov. Clinton received at this election a majority in Ulster county, which gave him 1029 out of 1145 votes cast.

When the legislature assembled at Albany Gov. Clinton opened the session with a message which made only 32 lines in a newspaper.

CENSUS OF 1790.

The population of that part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, which now forms Rensselaer county, was in 1790 the following :

	Males.	Females.	Slaves.	Total.
Rensselaerwyck.....	3,672	3,204	572	7,448
Stephentown.....	3,852	3,392	28	7,272
Hoosick.....	1,512	1,455	36	3,003
Schaghticoke.....	753	694	137	1,617
Pittstown.....	1,260	1,134	31	2,425

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

Peculiar to people living away from the more animated centres of busy life, such as large cities and manufacturing towns, the scattered inhabitants of the manor of Rensselaerwyck early associated themselves together in religious societies, and built themselves convenient and commodious meeting-houses at accessible points along the public roads or thickly settled neighborhoods. It is the history of these different organizations which has preserved the names of the more prominent and active men of the localities where churches were erected and divine worship steadily held.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF STEPHENTOWN CENTER.

For the purpose of organizing a society of Baptists a deputation of members of certain Baptist churches of Rhode Island and Connecticut met at Little Hoosick, now Stephentown Center, on the 13th of September, 1783. Among the persons forming the first membership of the society were Hezekiah Hull, Dorcas Hull, Benajah Corpe, Margaret Corpe, John Pool, Zerriah Pool, Wait Crum, Patience Crum and William Fanning.

The Black river school house was for a great number of years the place where the members of the society stately assembled for divine worship. In 1828 the building which was known as the "old Black river meeting house" was erected at a cost of about \$1,000. This structure was afterward removed from its first site to the present one, when the old building

was in 1858 enlarged and remodeled at a cost of about \$1,500.

On the 14th of September, 1858, the society became incorporated by the election of Joel Latham, George W. Weatherly and Thomas G. Carpenter as trustees of "the First Free-will Baptist Society of Stephentown."

The following elders have served the church as pastors: Eliers Benajah Corpe, 1785-67; John Allen, 1844-28; Samuel Dean, 1838-41; Isaiah B. Coleman, 1844-50; J. D. Waldron, 1851-52; A. H. Miller, 1854-56; David Hyde, 1859-63; J. Parkin, 1862-64; J. B. Randall, 1866-72; E. B. Collins, 1875-76; and W. Fuller, 1876-80. The church has about 45 members.

SECOND FREE-COMMUNION BAPTIST CHURCH.

This society was organized at Little Hoosick hollow, in the eastern part of Stephentown, March 20, 1793. Elder Nicholas Northrup was ordained its first pastor. He had the pastoral care of the society for about 35 years. Shortly after his removal to the West the congregation was broken up. In 1819 its membership was 100.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AT STEPHENTOWN.

Early in the summer of 1795 steps were taken to organize this society. On the 19th of November of that year Robert Niles was made the first elder of this church. The first meetings of the society were held at the house of Asa Burtch. A church building was erected about the year 1796. The society for the purpose of being incorporated held a meeting on the 4th of November, 1835, at which Abel Tanner, Ephriam Pierce, John Russell, Rufus Sweet, Simeon G. Goodrich, Henry Stanton, William Kittel, jr., Erastus Brown and David Sweet were elected trustees of the "First Baptist church and society of Stephentown."

The following pastors have been associated with the society since its organization: Elders Robert Niles, ——— Harris, Matthew Jones, Daniel H. Grant, Elnathan Sweet, M. P. Favor and George H. Day.

THE UNION BAPTIST SOCIETY.

A Baptist society at the beginning of the present century, it appears, existed in the southwestern part of the town, having the designation, "The Union Baptist society." In the certificate of its incorporation, March 1, 1804, it is declared that a meeting was held in the meeting-house of the society, and that Samuel Galy, James Harris and Joseph S. Galy were elected trustees.

THE FREE-WILL BAPTIST CHURCH AT WEST STEPHENTOWN.

This religious society was organized on the

14th day of November, 1829, in West Stephentown, by the Rev. Andrew H. Miller, Josiah C. Humphrey, Calvin Coleman, Samuel Coleman, Isaiah B. Coleman, Clark Vary and Daniel Beers. The organization adopted the name of the Stephentown and Nassau Free Communion Baptist church. A commodious frame meeting house, seating about 500 persons, was erected at a cost of \$2,500, on the town line of Stephentown and Nassau, in 1829. The church was dedicated in November, 1829, the Revs. P. W. Lake, A. H. Miller and John Allen officiating. In 1877 the building was remodeled and a bell purchased at a cost of \$1,400. This house of worship, which has a seating capacity for about 400 persons, was dedicated November 3, 1877, the Revs. J. M. Langworthy, J. J. Hoag, W. Fuller and I. B. Coleman taking part in the dedicatory services.

In accordance with the laws of the state, the society to be incorporated elected on the 19th day of November, 1831, the following persons as trustees: Jonathan Daboll, Isaiah B. Coleman, Ephraim B. Kendall, Samuel Coleman, 2d, and Benjamin Chase. The society adopted the name of "The First Free Communion Baptist Church." On the 6th of October, 1841, the name was changed to "Free Baptist Church." Subsequently it has been known as the "Free Will Baptist Church." The roll of the present membership of this church bears the names of 192 persons.

The following pastors have served this congregation: The Rev. A. H. Miller, 1829-1842; the Rev. J. D. Howe, 1842-44 and the Rev. I. B. Coleman 1844 to date.

THE SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST SOCIETY OF STEPHENTOWN.

Another organization of Baptists was formed in the southeastern part of the town in the early part of this century. On the 15th of October a meeting was held at the usual place for divine worship, at which Philander Carpenter, Calvin P. Carpenter and Joshua B. Maxon were elected trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist society of Stephentown. The church of this society was erected in the extreme southeastern part of the town, a short distance west of the Massachusetts line.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT STEPHENTOWN FLATS.

The first record preserved of this society's organization is found in the old church book:

SEPTEMBER 23, 1793. Then the Presbyterian Church of Stephentown met agreeable to a law of the state, given by William Boardman and John Wylie, elders. The meeting then balloted for trustees, when the following gentlemen were elected: William Boardman, John Wylie, Hosea

In 1794 the session of the church, desiring an enrollment of the names of the persons belonging to the "two churches" that had united to form this one, the following names were furnished: James Wylie, Joseph Huntington and William Boardman, elders: Hosea Moffitt, Widow Sarah Wylie, Mrs. Holmes, Mr. Brainard, William Doty, Andrew Hunter, Esther Graves, Ruth Doty, Mary Howard and Mrs. Moffitt.—13.

The first meeting house of this society was erected in 1794 on what was known as Presbyterian hill, at Stephentown Flats. In 1836 the old building was torn down and a new one erected. On December 25, 1868, this building was destroyed by fire, on the site of which the present house of worship was erected.

The church has at present about 75 members.

The pulpit of this church was at first filled by stated supplies. These were: The Rev. John Warford, July, 1794, and the Rev. Samuel Sturges, June, 1799.

The pastors of the church have been the Revs. Aaron Jordon Boage, November, 1800-January, 1809; John Younglove, July, 1806-June, 1816; Noah M. Wells, March, 1817-Jonas Coe, February, 1818-1821, (supply); Moses Hunter, February, 1821-1823; Charles G. Finney, October, 1827-November, 1827, (supply); Edwards A. Beach, June, 1828-May 16, 1834; Bowman Brown, March, 1835-April, 1839, (supply); J. G. Hall, January, 1840; Hugh Carlile, 1841-1842; Joshua B. Graves; Almon Underwood; — Gould; John Davis (two years); J. Northrup (one and a half years); John Hendricks; •Fayette Shepherd, March 1, 1850, (supply); M. C. Bronson, June 23, 1850-February 10, 1858 (supply); Robert Day, June 1, 1858-May, 1860, (supply); John B. Shaw, July 12, 1860-April, 1865; Eber M. Rollo, April, 1865-September, 1874, (supply); A. G. Beebe.

UNION PRESBYTERIAN SOCIETY.

This society was organized in the southwestern part of the town. On the 1st of March, 1804, the members assembled at "the meeting house in the southwest part of Stephentown," and for the purpose of incorporation, elected as trustees John W. Schermerhorn, Ebenezer Smith and Winthrop Root.

The Baptist society formed a part of this union.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

A religious body known as the Congregational church existed in the beginning of the century in the western part of Stephentown. For the purpose of being incorporated a meeting was held by the members and the following

persons elected trustees: Jonathan Emmons, jr., Abijah Willmot and Amaziah Bailey.

STEPHENTOWN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This society was organized in 1868 in the Christian chapel, near the Stephentown depot. In 1870-71, a frame house of worship was erected at Stephentown Flats, which was dedicated on the 4th of April, 1871, the Rev. C. F. Burdick, presiding elder of the Troy district, officiating. The church, which has a seating capacity for about 300 persons, cost \$3,242.41. The church has a membership of 78 persons.

The following persons have been pastors of the church: The Rev. George Hudson, 1868-70; the Rev. E. A. Braman, 1871; the Revs. E. A. Braman and Francis Booth, 1872; the Rev. Nathan C. Hill, 1873; the Rev. W. F. Sanford, 1874-75; the Rev. George W. Hughes, 1876; the Rev. George Hudson, 1877-79; and the Rev. W. A. Phelps, to date.

The society was incorporated June 4, 1875, at which time a meeting was held and the following persons elected trustees: John F. Blinn, James H. Taylor, William D. Wally, Alvah Hunt and William Kittel.

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AT STEPHENTOWN.

About five years ago, through the active zeal of several Roman Catholic priests, a small Roman Catholic congregation was organized in Stephentown. Shortly afterwards a church was erected. On the 14th of October, 1875, Hugh Lindsey and Cornelius McFeeley were appointed trustees of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church.

HARLEM EXTENSION RAILROAD.

The Harlem extension railroad, which extends through the towns of Stephentown, Berlin, Petersburg and Hoosick, originated from the consolidation of the Lebanon Springs railroad and the Bennington and Rutland railroad. April 23, 1870, when the articles of agreement were filed. The Lebanon Springs railroad filed its articles March 25, 1865. The New York and Harlem railroad company was formed April 2, 1831. The Harlem extension railroad forms a very important line from New York city to Vermont and Canada. The length of the road is 114 miles.

STEPHENTOWN.

The village of Stephentown, near the centre of the town, is situated on the Kinderhook creek, and is a station of the Harlem Extension railroad. In 1804 a postoffice was established at this place, of which Nathan Howard was the first postmaster. In the "State Gazetteer" of 1836, Stephentown, Stephentown Centre and

Stephentown Flats are apparently described as one place, as follows:

Stephentown Hollow or Centre, 21 miles from Troy and Albany, contains four woolen factories, one grist and three saw mills, one cotton factory, three wool carding machines, one tannery, three stores, one tavern, one Presbyterian and two Baptist churches, and from 50 to 60 dwellings.

Stephentown at present has a population of about 100, contains about 45 buildings, among which are the Baptist church, the Roman Catholic church, the Christian chapel, and the school house of district No. 4. The business interests of the place comprise two taverns, four stores, one tinshop, two wagon maker shops, a blacksmith shop and a saw mill.

STEPHENTOWN FLATS.

Stephentown Flats is a hamlet on the Kinderhook creek about a mile southwest of the village of Stephentown. The place embraces about 35 buildings, among which is the Presbyterian and the Methodist Episcopal churches. It has a hotel, a saw mill, a grist mill and several vacant mill buildings.

STEPHENTOWN CENTER.

This hamlet, formerly known as Mechanicville, is situated in the center of the town, on the Black river. A postoffice was established here in December, 1878, of which Ezra Chase since then has been postmaster. The place comprises about 43 buildings, which include the Free Will Baptist church and the schoolhouse of district No. 10. It has a saw mill, a grist mill, a store and several shops. The population of the place is 185.

NORTH STEPHENTOWN.

This hamlet is situated in the northeastern part of the town. About the year 1824 a postoffice was established here, of which Lawrence Van Valkenburgh was first postmaster. In 1836 the place is spoken of as being 30 miles from Troy, having a woolen factory, a store, a tavern and about 20 dwellings, near Black Brook, which drives several saw mills and two extensive turning establishments. At present there is a store at this point and about 25 buildings.

SOUTH STEPHENTOWN.

This hamlet is in the southern part of the town. In 1836 it is mentioned as being 24 miles from Troy, on the Kinderhook creek, having a cotton factory, a grist mill, two saw mills, a tannery, a store, a tavern and 30 dwellings. There is a postoffice at this point, of which William Hand is postmaster.

WEST STEPHENTOWN.

This hamlet is in the northwestern part of the town, a short distance east of the boundary

line of the town of Nassau. West Stephen-town, including Dunham's Hollow in the town of Nassau, contains within a radius of about a mile 65 buildings, among which is the Free-Will Baptist church. The business interests of the place comprise four stores, a postoffice, agricultural works, a furnace, a grist mill, two saw mills and four blacksmith shops.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

1790	6,795	1845.....	2,248
1800	4,878	1850.....	2,772
1810.....	4,567	1855.....	2,772
1815.....	2,640	1860.....	2,311
1820.....	2,592	1865.....	2,103
1825.....	2,703	1870.....	2,103
1830.....	2,716	1875.....	2,047
1835.....	2,328	1880.....	1,996
1840.....	2,753		

CHAPTER XIX.

THE TOWN OF SANDLAKE.

PROMINENT PIONEER PEOPLE—THE LAW ERECTING THE TOWN IN 1812—
THE VICISSITUDES OF A MAN OF FORTUNE—THE EARLY MANUFACTURE OF GLASS IN THE TOWN—ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY—THE FIRST LIBRARY ASSOCIATION IN THE TOWN—
THE BUILDING OF THE PLANK ROAD—ORGANIZATION OF CHURCHES—
—MANUFACTURING INTERESTS—VILLAGE HISTORY—CENSUS.

That portion of the manor of Rensselaerwyck which in the early part of the present century took by legislative enactment the name of Sandlake was shortly before the revolutionary war inhabited by a few Dutch and English speaking settlers. The date of each one's settlement is not easily determined, for the names of these pioneer people are mostly preserved by tradition, and only a small number of recorded papers indicate when they first leased their farms from the patroon.

THE FIRST SETTLERS.

Among the names remembered the following may be said to comprise those of the more prominent of the first settlers of Sandlake: Wynant Van Alstyne, John Bowman, Abram Bristol, William Butts, John Carmichael, Philip Feller, Nicholas Fellows, Abram Frear, Philip Gardner, Job Gilbert, William Goslin, Elias Gregory, Stephen Gregory, Andreas Miller, Henry Miller, Henry Moul, Eleazer Peck, Ephraim Quimby, Michael Rykert, Frederick Shaver, Joseph H. Sipperly, Solomon Taylor, Andreas Weatherwax and Hendrick Young-hans.

It is said that Joshua Lockwood and William Carpenter built the first grist mill at Sandlake in 1768.

Most of these early farmers took up land in the vicinity of the several beautiful lakes or along the devious course of the Wynantskill. A great portion of the territory of the town formerly belonged to the town of Greenbush, and a part to the town of Berlin.

THE TOWN OF SANDLAKE ERECTED.

By "an act to divide the towns of Greenbush

and Berlin, in the county of Rensselaer, into three towns," passed by the legislature, June 19, 1812, the town of Sandlake was created. In regard to the boundaries of the town the act reads:

That from and after the first day of March next, all that part of the town of Greenbush, within the following bounds to wit: Beginning at the north-west corner of the said town of Greenbush, and running eastwardly, on the line between the towns of Troy and Greenbush, five miles; thence south 17° 57' west, until it intersects the northerly line of the town of Schodack; thence westerly, on the line between the towns of Schodack and Greenbush, until it intersects the line of the county of Albany, in the Hudson river, and thence up the river, on a line of the county of Albany, to the place of beginning, including all the islands in the said river lying nearest the east side thereof shall be considered as the town of Greenbush. *

* * And that all the residue of the town of Greenbush, together with the three miles set off from the west end of Berlin, parallel to the present west line of said town, shall be erected into a new town, by the name of Sandlake, and that the first town meeting in said town shall be held at the dwelling house of Thomas Thompson in said town.

In 1843 a part of the town of Greenbush was taken off, and on March 2, 1848, a portion subtracted to form the town of Poestenkill. The landscape of the town is picturesquely diversified with several large lakes: Crooked, Martin's or Burden's, Glass and Sand lakes. The big Bowman, little Bowman and Reichard's ponds are attractive bodies of water. The principal streams irrigating the town are the Wynantskill and Tatsawassa creek. The former is highly valued for its water power. The eastern

part of the town is mountainous and thickly wooded.

THE FIRST OFFICERS OF THE TOWN.

The first officers of the town elected in accordance with the statute were :

Supervisor, Calvin Thompson ; town clerk, David E. Gregory ; assessors, Lawrence Van Alstyne, John Clint, Ezra Newton ; commissioners of highways, John Stevens, John North, Jacob Royce ; overseers of the poor, Stephen Gregory, Lewis Bullock ; collector, Jonathan Ford ; constables, John Dimebark, Jonathan Ford, Henry Lord ; school commissioners, Aretus Lyman, Joel Bristol, Ellis Foster.

THE MANUFACTURE OF GLASS.

Early in the present century the establishment of glass works on the banks of Glass lake gave the town of Sandlake an important local industry. The small collection of houses that grew up about these works assumed the name of Rensselaer village, which is now designated Glass house.

The history of these works properly begins about the year 1788, when Leonard de Neufville, Jan Heefke and Ferdinand Walfahert, the proprietors of the Dovesbrough glass works, 10 miles west of Albany, appealed to the people of the state of New York to sustain their manufacture of glass. They set forth that the state was annually drained of £20,000 for this necessary article which they could manufacture and which excelled in quality English glass. These works were visited in 1788 by Elkanah Watson. His acquaintance with the founder of this enterprise gave him the following information, which his son published in the memoirs of his father.

LIFE'S VICISSITUDES.

Elkanah Watson proceeded eight miles from Albany to the new glass house erected by John de Neufville, a former correspondent of his, and once a citizen of Amsterdam. John de Neufville had been the negotiator of the treaty made by Holland with the American congress, which primarily produced the war between the former and England, in 1761. He commenced business with a hereditary capital of half a million sterling, and lived in Amsterdam at his country seat in the highest affluence and splendor. He sacrificed his fortune by his attachment to the cause of American independence. The fragments of his estate he invested in the enterprise of establishing this glass factory. Elkanah Watson found this gentleman, born to affluence, living in a solitary place, occupying a miserable log cabin, furnished with a single deal table and two common chairs, destitute of the ordinary comforts of life.

THE ALBANY GLASS WORKS.

In 1795 it appears that the works erected by De Neufville had become the property of Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Elkanah Watson, Robert MacGregor and Thomas and Samuel Mather, and had been carried on for some time under the firm name of MacGregor & Co. On the 7th of April of that year the partnership was dissolved and a new company formed under the name of Thomas Mather & Co.

In February, 1796, the state legislature passed an act for the encouragement of the Albany glass factory. The proprietors of the glass works at this time were Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, John Saunders, Abraham Ten Eyck, Elkanah Watson, Frederick A. de Zeng, K. K. Van Rensselaer, Douw Fonda, Walter Cochran and Samuel Mather.

THE RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY.

On the 28th of February, 1800, the legislature passed "An act to incorporate the stockholders of the Rensselaer glass factory." The preamble of the act recites that "whereas Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Elisha Jenkins, Elkanah Watson, George Pearson, James Kane, Thomas Frothingham, Frederick Jenkins, Rensselaer Havens and Francis Bloodgood have associated for the purpose of establishing a glass factory in the county of Rensselaer, in this state," that the request of the petitioners be granted. The capital stock, it was provided, of the company should not exceed 100 shares and each share \$1,000. From the patron of the manor of Rensselaerwyck the company obtained a large tract of land lying about the shores of Glass lake and upon a portion of it, adjacent to the lake, erected a number of buildings necessary for the manufacture of glass. It is related that the company in order to secure experienced workmen sent William Richmond, a Scotchman, to England, where dressed as a beggar, he traveled as a bag-pipe player and visited the principal glass manufacturing districts and engaged the number of employees desired. Major Thomas Frothingham, who had served as an officer during the revolutionary war, was made general superintendent of the works. Under his efficient management the establishment obtained considerable popularity for the superior quality of its glass. The general appreciation in which Major Frothingham's personal abilities were held by the public led to his election as a member of the state legislature in 1800-22, at which time he very ably represented the district as a senator. The Rensselaer glass factory gave employment to a large number of workmen, for whom comfortable dwellings were erected in the immediate vicinity of

the works. The company continued to manufacture a fine quality of window glass until 1816, when the cylinder works were destroyed by fire, which was so great a loss to the proprietors that they became pecuniarily embarrassed. "An act for the relief of the president and directors of the Rensselaer glass factory," was passed by the legislature, April 13, 1819. The bill states that "it was discovered that the business could not be prosecuted any further with a prospect of profit; that heavy losses had already been incurred in the persevering efforts of the directors to render the business productive of some benefit to the stockholders, and had therefore been abandoned." As the further prosecution of it would inevitably produce still heavier losses the petitioners prayed that an act of the legislature might be passed authorizing them to dissolve the corporation, to sell the estate, pay their debts and make a distribution of their effects among the several stockholders.

A NEW COMPANY FORMED.

Shortly after the passage of the act referred to, Nathan R. Crandall and Isaac B. Fox purchased the works and erected new buildings. This firm began the manufacture of cylinder glass, the former company having made crown and cylinder window glass. On the death of Nathan R. Crandall the manufacture of glass at this establishment was for a time discontinued. On March 11, 1825, the property was sold by Moses Warren, sheriff of Rensselaer county, to Richard J. Knowlson.

On the 16th of April, 1830, the legislature passed "an act to incorporate the Rensselaer glass manufacturing company," by which Richard J. Knowlson, Isaac B. Fox, Daniel M. Gregory and such persons as thereafter might become stockholders of the said company were to be known by the name of "The Rensselaer Glass manufacturing company." For the purpose of making cylinder, window, crown and other glass ware, the capital stock was to be \$50,000, shares \$100 each. The subscription books were to be opened under the direction of Richard J. Knowlson, Daniel M. Gregory and Richard Spencer, jr. The affairs of the company were to be managed by five directors. About the year 1831 the firm of Knowlson & Schmeuiss began the manufacture of glass at this place, which it continued for more than a year.

On the 1st of July, 1825, Richard J. Knowlson sold the land and buildings formerly owned by the Rensselaer glass factory company to Francis Stadler, Joseph Stadler, Anthony Rush and Joseph Wetser, who took the name of Stadlers, Rush & Co., in the manufacture of

glass at Rensselaer village. This firm becoming involved conveyed the property to Richard J. Knowlson and Isaac B. Fox, as trustees, May 7, 1828, for the settlement of their liabilities. Subsequently, about the year 1839, A. R. & S. H. Fox began again the manufacture of glass at this place, and continued the business until the year 1853, when the works were destroyed by fire and were not again rebuilt. The sand which first led the early manufacturers of glass to establish works at this place was found in time to be unsuited for the purposes desired, and for a number of years sand was obtained from Berkshire county, Mass.

THE SANDLAKE LIBRARY SOCIETY.

It appears that steps were early taken to provide the people of a part of the town with a circulating library. On the second Tuesday in April, 1808, \$100 having been subscribed for the establishment of a library, the members of the Sandlake library society assembled at the house of Thomas Thompson, and after making William Van Tress chairman of the meeting, elected Uriah M. Gregory, Joel Bristol, Stephen Gregory, Aretus Lyman and Nathan R. Crandall trustees of the association.

THE PLANK-ROAD COMPANY.

When a number of years ago the construction of plank-roads attracted the attention of the public, it was deemed judicious by those interested in maintaining a good road between the city of Albany and village of Sandlake to obtain from the legislature the privilege of building such a road. On the 10th of April, 1849, was passed "an act to allow the president and directors of the eastern turnpike to sell a part or all of their road, and to form a plank-road from Albany to Sandlake." By this act, Erastus Corning, David V. N. Radcliffe, Samuel S. Fowler, Richard J. Knowlson, Gideon Butts, Evert van Alden, John DeFreest, James Dearstyne, DeWitt DeForest, George Cipperly, Wynant Youngmans and their associates were constituted a company to construct and maintain a plank-road from the east side of the Hudson river opposite the city of Albany, through the town of Greenbush on the most eligible route to the Glass Factory village in the town of Sandlake. Although the planks of this road have almost all disappeared from the road-bed which were used in its construction, the highway is still designated as the plank-road.

CEMETERIES.

The Sandlake union cemetery association was organized on the 7th of June, 1847, at the house of Calvin Sliter, and incorporated by the election of the following trustees: Calvin Sli-

ter, Nathan Upham, Solomon Gregory, Cornelius Schermerhorn, Richard J. Knowlson and Albert R. Fox. In 1840 William P. Van Rensselaer conveyed to the Rensselaer burial-ground association three acres of land in the vicinity of Sliter's Corners. Another acre was in 1874 obtained from Eben W. Carmichael, which, with the former ground, was neatly laid out into a rural cemetery.

The old burial ground about a mile south of the village of West Sandlake, and the graveyard in the rear of Zion's Lutheran church, in the village, contain the tombs of many of the first settlers of the western part of the town of Sandlake.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH AT RENSSELAERWYCK.

The earliest religious society formed in that part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, now the town of Sandlake, was an organization of Lutherans known as the congregation of the church called Zion at Rensselaerwyck. This society was incorporated on the 25th day of January, 1790. On that day Andreas Weatherwax and Andreas Miller were elected trustees of Zion church. The judges of election were Henry Moeller, Henry Miller and Philip Feller. The meeting house was built of logs, on a piece of land given to the congregation by Stephen Van Rensselaer. The site of this old building, which was removed about the year 1815, is still pointed out, it being a part of the present farm of Henry S. Traver. The membership of Zion church became the basis of the organization of the First Lutheran church of West Sandlake.

SECOND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEST SANDLAKE.

This society was organized in 1837. For the purpose of being incorporated the male members of the congregation on the 8th of May, 1839, assembled at the house of John Cipperly and there elected Wynant Youngmans, Bernard Uline, Bernard C. Sharp, John Cipperly and John P. Shaver, trustees of "The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sandlake." For a time after the organization of this society divine worship was held by it at the house of Bernard Uline. On the 16th of the same month of that year the trustees made purchase of a piece of ground whereon to erect a church edifice, which was subsequently built and dedicated October 5, 1839. In 1864 the building was remodeled at a cost of about \$2,500, and was rededicated January 19, 1865. The present roll of the membership of this church embraces the names of 120 persons.

The pastors who have served this congregation since its organization have been the Rev. John D. Lawyer, 1837; the Rev. Jesse S. Robin-

son, 1838-39; the Rev. Isaac Kimball, 1839-40; the Rev. H. L. Dox, 1841-50; the Rev. Nicholas Van Alstyne, 1850-61; and the Rev. M. W. Empie, July 1, 1861, to date.

THE GERMAN LUTHERAN, ZION'S CHURCH, at EAST SANDLAKE.

A society of German Lutherans was organized in East Sandlake, in school district No. 11, in 1865, by the Rev. F. Heinle. The old wooden Baptist church, north of the school house, near big Bowman pond, was first used by this congregation for divine worship, in July, 1865, which, on the first Sunday in August, was dedicated with appropriate services. The building cost about \$500, and has a seating capacity for about 200 persons. The church has 80 members. The following have been the pastors of this church: The Revs. F. Heinle, D. Bruno, F. A. Sydlaw, and the present pastor, the Rev. George Vetter.

SALEM CHURCH OF THE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION OF WEST SANDLAKE, (GERMAN.)

This religious association was organized in 1845 at the present parsonage, at that time the old Lutheran church, by the Rev. J. G. Marzquart. Philip Young, Andrew Schafer, Philip Schwartz, John Scheer and John Schuster. In 1849 the old wooden schoolhouse, erected in 1840, was dedicated as a house of worship, the Rev. R. J. Derrick officiating. In 1866 the present frame church edifice was erected at a cost of about \$7,000, which has a seating capacity for about 800 persons. In October of the same year it was dedicated by Bishop J. J. Esher.

On the 27th of February, 1867, the society became incorporated by the election of John Wagner, Andrew Schafer and John Scheer as trustees of "The Salem church of the village of West Sandlake." The church has at present 160 members. The following pastors have had charge of this church: The Revs. J. G. Marzquart, 1845-46; M. Lamer, 1847-48; J. Wagner, 1849-50; R. J. Derrick, 1851-52; D. Fisher, 1853-54; L. Jacobi, 1854-55; George Eckhard, 1856-57; G. J. Grenzbach, 1858-59; F. Lohmeyer, 1860-61; C. F. Boller, 1862-63; H. Fisher, 1864; W. Meritt, 1865-66; C. F. Scheopflins, 1867-68; M. Yarnell, 1869-70; J. G. Seigrist, 1871-72; A. Luesch, 1873-75; C. F. Stube, 1876-78; and A. Schlenk, 1879-80.

THE TRUE DUTCH REFORMED PROTESTANT CHURCH.

Among the early religious societies of which the inhabitants of the town of Sandlake were members, was the congregation known as "The Wynants and Poestenkill True Dutch Re-

formed Protestant church in the towns of Greenbush and Sandlake." On the 17th of May, 1824, the members of this church assembled at the usual place of divine worship, in the town Sandlake, and elected as trustees William W. Cooper, Moses P. B. Bloomendale and Conrad Cooper for the purpose of being incorporated. On the 28th of June, 1825, the name of the church was changed to "The True Reformed Dutch church of Wynants and Poestenkill in the county of Rensselaer."

THE PROTESTANT SOCIETY.

A religious organization known as the Protestant society was formed at the house of Stephen Gregory on the 7th of January, 1805. For the purpose of incorporation the association elected Henry Withy, Stephen Gregory, John Stephens, Daniel Bristol, Wm. Van Trass and Samuel Hammond trustees. A seal was adopted, having a representation of an altar, two doves and the motto "Unite" engraved upon it.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANDLAKE.

The First Presbyterian society in Sandlake was organized on the 21st of December, 1808. The Presbyterian people of Sandlake uniting with the members of the Congregational church of Nassau formed a congregation of 35 members, which took the name of the First Presbyterian church of Greenbush, before a portion of the town of Sandlake. When the town of Sandlake was erected the society was called the First Presbyterian church of Sandlake. The present frame house of worship was erected near Sliter's Corners in 1855. The church now belonging to the Baptist congregation at Sandlake was previous to this year, 1835, worshipped in by this society, the building then being known as the Union church. The society was incorporated on the 28th of February, 1826, by the election of Scott Vining, Calvin Thompson, Stephen Gregory, Silas Willmot, Gilbert Bailey and Uriah Gregory as trustees of the "First Presbyterian society of the town of Sandlake." The church has at present 62 members. The church has had the following pastors: The Revs. John Keyes, 1808-12; — Brown; — Perry; John Knill; William Glynn; — Lummis; — Metcalf; — Woodbury; John Younglove, 1818-24; Ezra D. Kinney, 1825-30; Thomas Wickes, 1831-32; Gardner Hayden, 1832-34; Isaac Foster, 1835-36, supply; — McDowell, 1836-37; Thomas J. Haswell, 1838-39; John Davis, 1840-43; John Sessions, 1843-47; Chauncey H. Hubbard, 1847-50; Eber M. Rollo, 1851-54; Charles Doolittle, 1855-59; John P. Cushman,

1859-62; Andrew McMullen, 1863-64; Eber M. Rollo, 1865; Albert C. Bishop, 1865-75; and James P. Viele, May, 1876, to date.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SANDLAKE.

The first Baptist church of Sandlake secured its incorporation by electing on the 18th of March, 1826, Lockwood Butts, William King and Nathan Barber trustees. The society assumed the name of the First Baptist church in the town of Sandlake. This congregation worshipped in the Union meeting house, at Sandlake, now known as Averill.

THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF SANDLAKE.

The society which is now known as the Baptist church of Sandlake was organized in 1831 by Isaac B. Fox, Joseph Gregory, A. V. P. Gregory, R. P. Whipple, Albert R. Fox, and 13 other persons. This congregation, in connection with the Presbyterians, held divine services in the Union meeting house, which was erected and dedicated in 1805, the Rev. Mr. Woodbridge performing the dedicatory services. This building has a seating capacity for about 500 persons, and cost about \$3,000. It became the sole property of the Baptist society some years subsequent to the organization of this congregation. It was remodeled in 1842 at an expense of about \$2,000, and in 1862, at about the same expenditure.

On the 13th of July, 1835, the members of the Second Baptist society met at their meeting house, and for the purpose of being incorporated elected Stephen Gregory, Joseph Gregory, Abraham V. P. Gregory, Isaac B. Fox, Charles H. Gregory and Henry L. Wyrants trustees. The church has at present 120 members.

The pastors and supplies of the church have been the Revs. Calvin C. Williams, 1832-33; Orrin Dodge, 1834-37; — Barker, 1837; E. D. Turner, 1837-39; Merritt House, 1840-41; Abel Brown, 1841-42; William I. Loomis, 1842-46; E. G. Perry, 1846-1850; J. B. Pixley, 1850-51; Alexander Milne, 1851; William W. Allen, 1855-58; Daniel Robinson, 1858-62; George W. Demers, 1863-65; Ezra D. Simmons, 1865-68; Reuben H. Weeks, 1869-80.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT WEST SANDLAKE.

A society of Methodists was early formed in the vicinity of West Sandlake. About the year 1825 a small house of worship was erected by the followers of Wesley which took the name of Hedding chapel. The Rev. Samuel Howat was among the first ministers who watched over the spiritual interests of this society. A meeting was held on the 4th of December, 1826, in the chapel, for the purpose of incorporating the congregation, at which

William Mott, William M. Martin, Benjamin Sibley, jr., and Henry Moul were elected trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Hedding chapel society. About the year 1845 a larger and more convenient meeting house was erected in the village of West Sandlake, which is still used by the society as a house of worship.

A second certificate of incorporation was secured in 1850 by this society, which on the 13th of May of that year elected William R. Mott, Solomon Coon, Samuel Weatherwax, Henry Moul, Henry Weatherwax, Jacob Ostrander and George Uline "trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church of West Sandlake."

The following ministers have had this congregation under their charge since 1836: The Revs. Asa Hand, 1836; D. Stevens, 1838; D. Starks, 1840; — Hancock, 1842; J. Eams, 1847; John Grove, 1850; John Chase, 1853; P. P. Harrower, 1855; William Smith, 1858; W. F. Hend, 1861; Merrick Bates, 1863; J. D. Bennham, 1865; J. W. Quinland, 1868; S. D. Elliott, 1871; R. Patterson, 1872; B. O. Meeker, 1875; J. B. Sylvester, 1876; C. M. Clark, 1877; E. Marsh, 1878.

The church has on its roll of membership the names of 100 persons.

WESLEY CHAPEL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

A society of Methodists was organized about the year 1830, at Oak hill, near the centre of the town. A meeting of the members of the congregation was held at the house of Cyrenius Finch, on the 30th of April, 1831, at which the Rev. John North was present. The following persons were elected trustees: The Rev. John North, Andrew A. Smith, Lewis Finch, Adam Feathers and John W. Belknap.

THE WESLEYAN CHAPEL SOCIETY.

Another society of the followers of John Wesley was organized in the town, which body held divine worship in the school house of district No. 14. To be incorporated the members of this congregation, which was served by ministers of the Chatham circuit, assembled at the school house, and there elected the Rev. John North, Sylvanus Babcock, Charles Dugar, Samuel H. Arnold and John McCann trustees of the Wesleyan chapel.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SANDLAKE.

The three congregations of Methodists, one at Sandlake village, (Averill,) one at Glass House, and one known as Clark's chapel in the town of Schoodack, have been consolidated into a charge and the resident pastor at Sandlake has them under his care. The congregation at Glass House embraces about 50 members. This

society had a church at this point about the year 1830. Clark's chapel was erected shortly after this date. The congregation was connected for a time with the charge at Nassau village, subsequently with the Glass House church, and latterly with the Sandlake charge. There are about 150 persons connected with this church.

Olive chapel was erected at Sandlake village about the year 1874, at an expense of about \$2,500. It was first associated as a charge with the church at West Sandlake, but in 1878 it was connected with the Sandlake charge. The Rev. Wm. W. Witney was the first pastor of this church. The roll of membership of the congregation bears 54 names.

ST. HENRY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AT SANDLAKE, (AVERILL.)

This church originated about the year 1868 when religious services were first held at the house of M. Cusaek, by the Rev. H. Hopkins of St. Francis Roman Catholic church of Troy. In June, 1869 it was decided that a small church should be erected, and the work of building was shortly afterwards commenced on a lot presented by J. Aken. On the 4th of January, 1870, the church was incorporated under the name of "St. Henry's church." The first services were held in the new building on Sunday, April 17, 1870. On the 16th of October, 1870, the church was dedicated by the Very Rev. V. G. Wadhams. The following priests have had charge of this church: The Revs. Father Gabriels, Father Wiebbe, Father Schoppe, and the Rev. Father Trieb, from May 31, 1879, to date.

AVERILL.

The village of Averill, which is situated on the Wynantskill, is a little north of the center of the town of Sandlake. The valuable water power of the Wynantskill at this point early attracted the attention of manufacturers. About the beginning of the century Thomas Thompson erected a saw mill and a forge on the stream running southward from the present village of Averill. A woolen mill was built about the year 1825 on the site of the former buildings, which was first operated by Coleman & Hemmingway as a satinet factory. Subsequently the mill was purchased by John Kerr of Troy. It was afterward changed into a hosiery mill by Hezekiah C. and George C. Arnold, who were associated with Daniel Wight in this branch of manufacture. This firm was succeeded by James Aken, and he in turn by the firm of Kidder & Aken. In 1871 the building was destroyed by fire.

Where now is the hosiery mill operated by Nicholas T. Kane was, about the year 1823, a tannery belonging to Ephraim Whittaker.

Subsequently it was successively owned by Caleb Finch, John Ladue, and Gershom Tabor. The tannery buildings were several times destroyed by fire. James Aken having purchased the property erected thereon a hosiery mill in 1862. In 1873 James F. Aken and Jephtha P. Kidder leased it, and were succeeded a year afterward by Kidder & McCready, and they by Kidder & North. Subsequently Nicholas T. Kane purchased it of James Aken. It is known as the Aken hosiery mill, has five sets of machinery and giving employment to about 75 persons.

About the year 1820 Aretus Lyman was running a saw-mill where now is the Sandlake warp and yarn factory, owned and operated by I. McConihe & Co. A short distance south of the saw-mill was a grist-mill, which a number of years afterwards was changed to a plaster-mill. A second grist-mill was erected below this mill. Aretus Lyman and Stephen Gregory were for a number of years the owners of these mills. Coonradt Albridge erected at this point a cotton mill, where was manufactured cotton batting and yarn. On August 27, 1836, Daniel Wight, Hezekiah C. Arnold and Alfred Robinson purchased from Aretus Lyman a grist-mill, in which they began the manufacture of satinnet warps. In 1870 I. McConihe & Co. succeeded to the ownership of the property. This firm employs about thirty-five persons in the manufacture of cotton warp.

An old mill known as the cloth dressing factory of John P. Albertson was in operation on this part of the Wynantskill as early as the year 1820. Where now is the Eagle hosiery mill was once the mill of Cornelius Schemerhorn, destroyed by fire in 1870.

The site of the Beaverwyck hosiery mill, the property of Thomas Knowlson, was about the year 1835 occupied by the satinnet mill of John Van Husen. For a time it was run as a grist mill by Arnold, Hunt & Wight. Subsequently Andrew B. Knowlson purchased the property and fitted up the building as a hosiery mill, which in 1874 was destroyed by fire. The mill was rebuilt, and is now called the Beaverwyck hosiery mill, and is in operation at present under the management of Andrew B. Knowlson.

About the year 1860 a paper mill was erected on the Wynantskill, south of the former mills, by Staats D. Tompkins. In 1865 the property passed into the hands of Eugene and John W. Merwin. In March, 1875, Andrew J. Smart of Troy became the owner of the mill, who at present manufactures annually about 700 tons of straw paper. About the year 1835 the furnace of William Carmichael was built at this

point. Here, also, at an early day was a cloth dressing factory.

In 1836 the village of Sandlake is spoken of as being 10 miles from Troy, containing a Baptist and a Presbyterian church, a postoffice, two satinnet factories, two cotton factories, a grist and a saw-mill, a furnace, a large tannery, a tavern, two stores and about 40 dwellings. The place now comprises about 100 houses, among which are the Baptist church, the Methodist Episcopal chapel and St. Henry's Roman Catholic church and the school house of district No. 7. The Sandlake collegiate institute was established here in 1852 by Wm. H. Scram. The school obtained an excellent reputation under the management of this well known educator of boys. The building is now remodeled and is owned by Horatio F. Averill, being known as the Averill house. The business interests of the place besides the manufactures already mentioned, include at present two hotels and several stores.

The place which was until 1880 the western part of the village of Sandlake being given a postoffice by the government, received the designation of Averill. The pretty sheet of water known as Sand lake is at a short remove from the Averill house.

SAND LAKE (SLITER'S CORNER'S.)

The place known as Sliter's Corners, in the town of Sandlake, is now the village of Sandlake, for here about the year 1815 was established a postoffice by the name of Sandlake. The place contains about 40 buildings, among which is the Presbyterian church. The grounds of the Union cemetery are in the immediate vicinity. At this point is a hotel, two stores, an undertaker's shop, a carriage and a blacksmith shop. The office of the Mutual insurance association of Sandlake, Poestenkill, Berlin and Stephentown is at this village. The association was organized March 21, 1878. The first directors were Joel B. Peck, Dr. E. W. Carmichael, Lewis W. Allendorph, John Vespurgish, John M. Miller, John Miller, William Upham and Arthur M. Peck. The interests of the company are mutual. About 250 persons are members of the association.

GLASS HOUSE.

This place was early known as Rensselaer village when the Rensselaer glass factory was in operation on the banks of Glass lake. It is a short distance south of Sliter's Corners. There are about 30 buildings at this point, among which is a Methodist Episcopal church, the school house of district No. 8, and a hotel. It is mentioned in 1836 as being 12 miles from Troy, having a Methodist church, a select

school, a postoffice, a glass manufactory making cylinder glass, a saw-mill, a tavern, two stores and 50 dwellings.

WEST SANDLAKE.

This village, in the western part of the town, was early known by the name of Ulines, in honor of Bernardt Uline, who built the first house at this point. In 1836 Ulines is referred to in the "State Gazetteer" as being seven miles from Troy, upon the Wynantskill, having a Lutheran and a Methodist Episcopal church, a grist and a saw mill, two stores, two taverns and about 50 dwellings. A postoffice was established here about the year 1835, of which Frost Myers was the first postmaster. Successively the following persons have been his successors in office: Burton A. Thomas, Jacob Taylor, Samuel D. Seymour, Dr. Wm. H. Snyder, Jacob Wheeler and Elbert W. Moul. The village contains about 90 houses and a population of 408. There are four churches in the place, two Lutheran, a Methodist Episcopal and a German Evangelical. It has one hotel, four stores, a hosiery mill, a yarn fac-

tory, two grist mills and a plow manufactory. The school house of district No. 4 is in the village. The hosiery mill of John H. Akin and John McLaren affords employment to about 40 persons. The stocking yarn factory of Albert Donaldson and William Uline is also an important industry.

The *Lutheran Herald* was issued in 1844, at West Sandlake, by the Rev. Henry L. Dox, pastor of the Second Lutheran church of the village. It was published for several years.

SOUTH SANDLAKE.

This hamlet is situated in the southwestern part of the town. It comprises about a half-score of houses, a store, a blacksmith shop and a wagonmaker's shop. The postoffice was established here about the year 1852. William Stevens has been the postmaster for many years.

POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

1813.....	3,293	1850.....	2,559
1820.....	3,592	1855.....	2,588
1825.....	3,426	1860.....	2,562
1830.....	3,659	1865.....	2,606
1835.....	3,840	1870.....	2,633
1840.....	4,203	1875.....	2,572
1845.....	4,291	1880.....	2,570

EMENDATION.

On page 58, line 18, in first column, instead of "diameter," read circumference.

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